

Moscow urges Israel not to delay talks

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Foreign Ministry said Wednesday it hoped to reach an agreement on the composition of a Palestinian delegation to a Middle East peace conference. Ministry spokesman Vitaly Churkin told a news conference that talks aimed at reaching agreement on a conference had reached a "decisive phase." He praised Arab governments for agreeing to end the boycott of the Jewish state in exchange for guarantees for an end to new Jewish settlements in the Israeli-occupied territories and said the matter was now up to Israel. Israeli leaders have raised issues about the representation of the Palestinians and this issue has to be solved. But I only hope this problem will not be part of an attempt to drag out the essence of the question. We must get an answer to the question although certain aspects of staging the conference are yet to be worked out. Mr. Churkin also said constant U.S.-Soviet contacts had helped prepare the framework as had efforts by both Washington and Moscow to persuade Middle East participants to go to the conference table.

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U.S. has no comment on reported accord

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States withheld comment Wednesday on a reported agreement with Israel that could clear the way for early Middle East peace talks. A State Department official said the first official comment would probably come from Secretary of State James Baker, now in Kuala Lumpur in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN). "The real rally has to come from Baker," the official said, when asked for reaction. "It's Baker who calls the shots on the peace process." A White House spokesman also declined comment. Israel Radio said Wednesday the United States had agreed with Israel to exclude Palestinians from Arab Jerusalem in the first stage of negotiations. Israel opposes the inclusion of Palestinians as the capital of the state they would like to create. Defense Minister Moshe Arens told reporters late Tuesday that he expected the United States to accept Israel's position on barring Palestinians from Arab Jerusalem from a Palestinian delegation. "I have no doubt I believe there is no difference of opinion between the Americans and us on this matter," he said.

Kuwait 'supports Palestinian cause'

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has said it would support the Palestinian cause despite the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO), backing for Iraq during its occupation of the emirate. "There are main Arab issues which are in reality our concerns on top of which is the Palestinian cause which is Kuwait's cause," Foreign Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah told Sawt Al Kuwait in an interview published Wednesday. He dismissed suggestions that Kuwait was considering cutting off relations with Arab countries sympathetic to Iraq during the Gulf crisis. Kuwait has laid off thousands of Palestinian workers largely for the PLO support for Iraq during its seven-month occupation of the emirate. Palestinians in Kuwait have complained of police harassment since the U.S.-led allies liberated the emirate in February. The community, which numbered 400,000 before the invasion, has dwindled to around 170,000.

Iranian towns shaken by tremor

NICOSIA (AP) — A strong earthquake shook the towns of Mahabad and Piranshahr in Iran's west Azerbaijan province Wednesday, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported. The agency said the quake, measuring 5.5 on the Richter scale, struck at 2:17 p.m. (9:47 GMT). There were no reports on damage or casualties. IRNA said. "It added that the tremor was the fourth this month in Piranshahr.

OPEC June output 23 million bpd

LONDON (R) — A surge in Saudi oil production at the end of June pushed OPEC's output last month to 23.01 million barrels per day, the highest since March, a revised Reuters survey of industry officials and analysts shows. "Total OPEC output last month was 23 million (bpd) or just above," said one London-based executive with a major oil company. That view was shared by most of those canvassed. A survey taken on July 2 put June output at 22.56 million. Since then there has been an upward revision of 425,000 bpd in estimated Saudi output for the month. The latest estimates show Saudi Arabia produced around 8.25 million bpd in June, compared with 7.5 million in May.

Sudan says 10,000 rebels surrendered

KHARTOUM (AP) — More than 10,000 southern rebels have surrendered to Sudanese army garrisons in June and July, a government official said Wednesday. Omar Suleiman Adam, assistant governor in the south-western region of Kordofan, was quoted by the Al Sudan Al Hadid newspaper as saying the rebel fighters, only a fraction of whom were armed, surrendered to army garrisons near their hometowns in the Nuba Mountains, 520 kilometres southwest of Khartoum. The newspaper quoted two wounded rebels as saying that they surrendered after their supply lines with their headquarters in Ethiopia were cut and their camps in the south were destroyed by government forces.

IMF head due in Algiers

ALGIERS (R) — The head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is due in Algiers shortly to discuss ways of helping Algeria avoid rescheduling some of its \$24 billion debt, official sources said Wednesday. Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghazali told parliament recently that he had invited Michel Camdessus for talks to help the government over a "difficult stage" with its debt. The government is concerned about repayment of its debts, estimated by the Algiers authorities at \$24 billion and by the World Bank at \$29 billion. Up to 75 per cent of oil income is being spent on debt servicing and Mr. Ghazali has said that although this is not too much for an oil-exporting country, the structure of the debt is "disastrous" as much of it short-term over three or four years.

Israel optimistic over peace talks; Arabs seek flexibility

Combined agency dispatches

ISRAEL VOICED optimism Wednesday about moves towards Arab-Israel peace talks but Egypt and Syria said the Jewish state needed to be more flexible.

Palestinian representation at the talks appeared to be the main hurdle to a Middle East peace conference.

An Israeli government official, who asked not to be named, said: "I don't say that everything has been resolved but we are optimistic and I think we are about to have a peace conference."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said he thought the talks could begin within two months once problems over who should represent the Palestinians were resolved.

The same problem sabotaged U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's efforts to promote talks last year after Mr. Shamir rejected Palestinians from Arab Jerusalem as negotiating partners.

But Israeli ministers said they believed Israel and Washington had reached an "understanding" over Palestinian representation.

Arafat: Rights ignored

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat said the negotiations ignored Palestinian rights.

He said Mr. Baker and Israel had agreed the negotiations would exclude Palestinians from Arab Jerusalem.

Mubarak hopes for flexibility

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said he hoped Israel would respond positively to the U.S. plan and "be more flexible."

"...I pray to God that Mr. Shamir will respond positively to what Mr. Baker told him as well as Syrian President Hafez Al Assad said."

"I am by nature optimistic," said Mr. Mubarak, speaking after talks with British Prime Minister John Major.

Mr. Mubarak, asked what Mr. Shamir should do now, replied: "Be much more flexible."

Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd told parliament the British government was also waiting for a positive response from Israel.

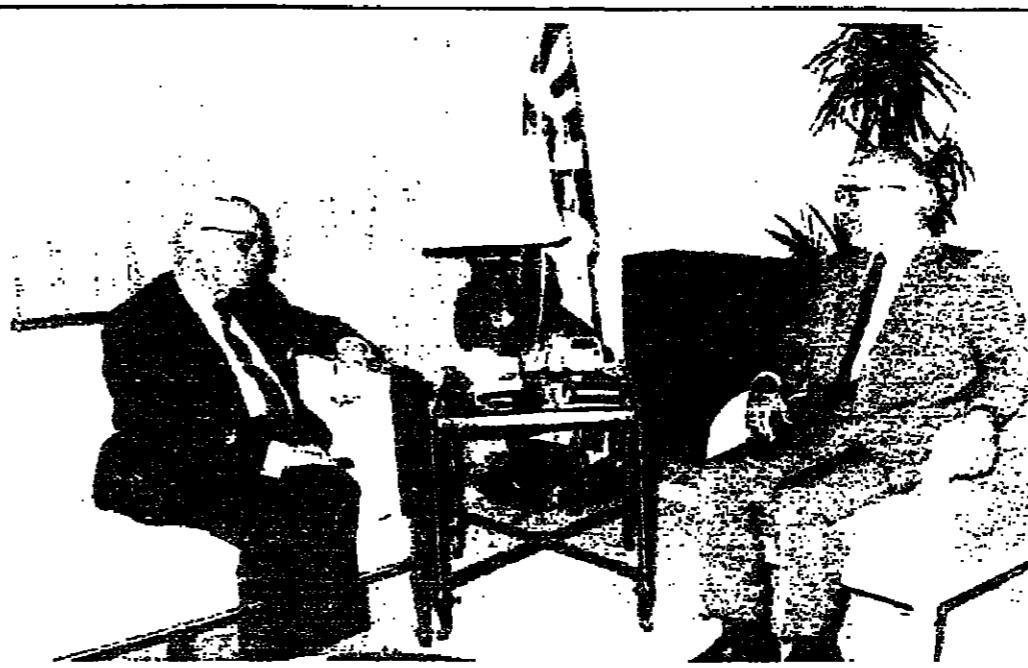
"The Israelis have within their grasp something for which... they have been aiming for 40 years, namely an opportunity to sit down and talk peace... negotiate their disputes with those of their Arab neighbours who are still at war with them," he said.

Mr. Hurd also reiterated Britain's call for Israel to stop building settlements in the occupied territories, calling them "a very considerable obstacle to peace."

He said he hoped a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation for the talks would be acceptable to the Israelis.

Syrian President Assad last week accepted compromise U.S. proposals aimed at bringing Israel

(Continued on page 5)



His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday meets with Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdul Meguid (Petra photo)

King stresses need for collective Arab action, strong role for League Abdul Meguid holds talks in Amman on Arab situation, Mideast peace efforts

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday voiced Jordan's absolute support for collective Arab action in a manner that would benefit all Arab countries.

Dr. Ensour underlined the importance Jordan attaches to reactivating the Arab League's role and the need for restoring Arab solidarity, which suffered as a result of the Gulf crisis, Petra said.

The King was speaking at a meeting with Arab League Secretary General Esmat Abdul Meguid at the Royal Court shortly after Dr. Abdul Meguid's arrival here on a two-day visit in the course of a tour of Arab countries.

King Hussein listened to Dr. Abdul Meguid's briefing on his mission and the outcome of his contacts with the heads of Arab countries in a bid to reactivating the Arab League's work, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

King Hussein spoke about "the issues and the challenges facing the Arab Nation at this critical stage of its history and presented his concept for collective Arab action that would benefit the Arab World," Petra said.

The meeting with the King

followed Dr. Abdul Meguid's discussions with Foreign Minister Abdulla Ensour on the general Arab situation.

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Jordan — respite and lifeline for Iraqis

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Thousands of Iraqis, some of them seeking a respite from their war-ravaged country and others looking for refuge in the West, are flooding into Jordan, thronging rundown hotels in downtown Amman to luxurious five-star establishments as well as apartments.

"Some of them are businessmen pursuing contacts, others are seeking refuge in Europe and the United States and still many are here for a short stay," said the receptionist at a JD 4-a-night downtown hotel, which, like dozens around it, has been doing a booming business since mid-May when the Iraqi government lifted travel restrictions.

An Iraqi taxi-driver who identified himself only as Haj Omar said most of his passengers on the Baghdad-Amman route were from the Iraqi middle class and lower middle class.

"They do not have much money, but still a week in Jordan is a much welcome prospect, away from the suffering in Iraq," he said.

"It will be an understatement to say things are bad in Iraq," said Haj Omar. "Prices are skyrocketing to the extent that it will still be cheaper for someone to come to Amman and buy essential stuff, such as food and medicine," he said.

Explosion kills 3 in Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY (AP) — Army crews worked Wednesday to clear away debris from an explosion that killed three U.S. soldiers a day earlier as they tried to remove ordnance near a military camp in Kuwait.

"They are still in the process of cleaning up out there," said an officer at the U.S. military's Joint Information Bureau (JIB) in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. He asked that his name not be used. The army said in a statement issued Tuesday that the cause of the accident at the Doha camp west of Kuwait City had not been determined but that "we know it was not due to hostile action or sabotage."

An investigation was started immediately, army spokesmen said.

The JIB officer said families were being notified and that names of the victims would be released at the Pentagon.

The soldiers were clearing ammunition left from a fire and explosion that showered the Doha camp in shrapnel and shells on July 11 after a previous apparent accidental detonation, the army statement said.

While the soldiers were moving the ordnance, it detonated, said the statement.

Munitions experts here say that unexploded shells are particularly troublesome in Kuwait's desert climate because they tend to overheat and can "cook off," or explode spontaneously.

The deaths brought to 16 the number of U.S. troop fatalities since the end of the Gulf war in February. All were accidental, caused by traffic accidents, mines or explosions, said an army officer who asked not to be identified.

Reporters have been barred from the Doha camp since the July 11 incident.

"Clearly it is extremely dangerous out there still," the officer said.

The July 11 explosion, believed to have been caused by an electrical short in a truck loaded with howitzer shells, injured 53 American and six British soldiers.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773/11-19

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:45 Programmes review
15:55 Children programme
17:10 Book of Adventure
18:30 News for the Deaf
18:45 Religion programme
19:00 Health programme
19:45 Programme review
20:30 News in Arabic
21:30 Local series
21:40 Programme review
22:00 Local programme
22:30 Arabic series
23:00 News in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Snorky
18:30 Les Chevaliers de Ciel
News in French
19:15 News in Hebrew
News in Arabic
19:30 The Family Man
Outlaws
20:00 News in English
Movie of the week

PRAYER TIMES

04:07 Fajr
05:38 (Statute) Dhuhr
12:12 Dhuhr

Haj Omar said he himself was making more money by buying food and other essentials in Amman and selling them in Iraq than plying his battered red and white Peugeot out on the Amman-Baghdad route.

Food prices have soared — as much as 20 times in some cases — in the Iraqi market as a result of the international sanctions imposed against Iraq following its Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait.

Asked whether Iraqis were fleeing their country in fear of renewed use of force by the American-led coalition against Iraq following charges that Baghdad is still withholding full disclosure of its nuclear programme and facilities, Ibrahim Mosuli, a Baghdad grocer, said:

"We are Iraqis. We are not scared. Anyone who is scared of death is not an Arab or a Muslim."

"We have lived through eight years of war with Iran and then over seven months in tension before the Americans started the war," said Mr. Mosuli, as several other elderly Iraqis listening to the conversation nodded in unison. "The Americans have killed tens of thousands of Iraqis and destroyed our country. What more can they do? Kill a few thousands more?"

"They will get their retribution, sooner or later," added the grocer, who said he was

visiting Jordan to meet his daughter who lives in France.

Reports from Baghdad have spoken of heavy demand for American dollars and for vehicles for the overland trip to Amman in recent days. Thursday is the deadline set by the Security Council for Iraq to provide full details of its nuclear route.

U.S. administration officials have warned of military strikes against Iraq's nuclear facilities which survived attacks by the American-led coalition during the Gulf war, which ended Iraq's occupation of Kuwait.

"We are happy to be in Amman for a week and do some shopping," said an Iraqi woman who gave her name as Fatima. "At prices as they are in Iraq, we cannot afford milk and medicine for our children," said the woman as she bottle-fed a three-year-old child in the worn-out hotel lobby.

The Iraqi government has set a ceiling of 600 Iraqi dinars per person as the amount he or she could take out of Iraq while travelling. Although it is equivalent to about \$1,900 at the official rate, foreign exchange is not released by the authorities, thus effectively bringing down the exchange value of the amount to less than \$100 outside Iraq.

Border officials are lenient these days and most Iraqis bring out as much money as they can, but about 1,500 Iraqi

dinars is about the average," said Haj Omar, the taxi driver.

At the exchange rate available in Jordan, 1,500 Iraqi dinars equal around JD 150.

Unofficial sources said about 50,000 Iraqis had entered Jordan after the lifting on travel restrictions in May. The sources could not give any estimate of how many Iraqis remained in Jordan.

Ahmad Saleh, an Egyptian employee at a downtown hotel, said the 30 beds laid out at two common halls at the establishment were always full, sometimes with two guests to a bed.

"Some of our guests take turns at sleeping since the number of beds is limited," said Mr. Saleh. "Some others spend nights at parks and other places nearby."

Managers of expensive hotels in Amman report around 80 to 90 per cent occupancy with half of them Iraqis. "Our clients are mostly businessmen or rich Iraqis who have family reunions here," said the senior sales executive at a five-star hotel.

Consular officials at Western embassies in Amman say they have been deluged with visa applications from Iraqi citizens. "We have to conduct individual personal interviews and carry out a thorough scanning process before granting anyone a visa," said a senior diplomat at a European embassy.

"We have the next 90 days

fully occupied for interviews with Iraqi applicants for visa," he added.

Many Iraqis have also approached United Nations agencies seeking refuge abroad, but in most cases such applications are not accepted under the parameters specified for recognition and approval as political refugees.

Local and international relief agencies such as the Catholic Relief Services, Caritas, are extending limited help to needy Iraqi families.

Iraqi embassy sources said the mission here was also offering help, though limited to emergency cases and situations.

Mubarak: No peace without Palestinians from diaspora

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak says peace talks with Israel will fail unless Palestinians from outside the Israeli-occupied territories are included "among Arab negotiators."

Who will represent Palestinians appears to be the main hurdle to clear before a Middle East peace conference can be convened under the sponsorship of the United States and the Soviet Union.

Mr. Mubarak, currently on a state visit to England, spoke in an Arabic-language interview taped last week by the British Broadcasting Corporation. Segments were broadcast Wednesday, and Egyptian newspapers published the interview's text.

He was interviewed before U.S. Secretary of State James Baker visited the region at the weekend and elicited commitments from Syria and other Arab countries to attend a conference. Israel has not responded, but Mr.

"We cannot ignore the Palestinians whether outside or inside (the occupied territories)," Mr. Mubarak said.

"The problem with Israel is that it doesn't want the PLO to participate in any discussion or settlement ... but we cannot find any solution without the Palestinians outside."

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Israel says the PLO is a "terrorist" group and refuses to negotiate with it. The Jewish state also rejects participation of delegates from Arab Jerusalem, which it contends would cast doubt on its "sovereignty" over the sector of the Holy City it "annexed" in 1967.

The PLO's relations with Egypt, Syria and other Arab states have soured since they supported different sides in the Gulf war. Mr. Mubarak was at the forefront of Arab opposition to Iraq and Syria also sent troops to the anti-Iraq coalition.

Despite the disagreement, Mr. Mubarak has said repeatedly that Palestinians outside the occupied territories should be involved in peace talks. His assertion that failure to involve them would block the peace process is new.

"It will lead to complications and other problems for Israel itself," the Egyptian president told the BBC. "If we want to bring about peace, it should be a complete and comprehensive peace and should be for all the parties including Israel."

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British report: Kuwait 'hesitant' on human rights

LONDON (R) — A British parliamentary committee expressed concern Wednesday about delays in Kuwait's enforcement of human rights after the Gulf war.

The Foreign Affairs Committee said it was concerned about the "hesitant" way in which Kuwait was approaching the promotion and enforcement of human rights and accountable government.

The committee, in a post-Gulf war report, urged Kuwait to act to prevent dissatisfaction in the country from reaching dangerous levels.

It said it recognised that Kuwait was still emerging from a

"horrible trauma of invasion and occupation" by Iraq.

"Even so we hope that the Kuwaiti government will be able to adjust its approach and prevent the dissatisfaction in the country reaching dangerous levels," it said.

Since the U.S.-led coalition ejected Iraq from Kuwait at the end of February there have been widespread calls in the Gulf emirate for democratic reforms. The government has promised full parliamentary elections for October next year.

Kuwait's National Council, a consultative body first introduced last year, has been revived. But

opposition leaders say this is simply an attempt by the ruling Al Sabah family to maintain its grip on power against the will of the people.

The committee, which sent a mission to the region in May, endorsed a U.N. proposal for humanitarian aid to be provided quickly to prevent hunger and disease among the Iraqi people.

"We believe that a carefully policed programme of rapid assistance should be put in place as quickly as possible," the report said, adding that there must be strict controls to prevent funds or supplies from reaching the Iraqi military.

Both the United States and Britain have indicated they might support a move to allow limited Iraqi oil sales to buy food and medicine provided there are guarantees against diversion.

A British member of parliament, Gavin Strang, urged Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd Wednesday to unfreeze Iraqi assets held in Britain and allow Baghdad to use the funds to purchase humanitarian supplies under U.N. supervision.

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Ministers discuss ways to ease traffic congestion at border post

AMMAN (J.T.) — Problems stemming from the shifting of the border post of Ramtha near the Syrian border to another site and the negative effects of the move on local businesses will be among the topics to be discussed during a visit to the region Thursday by three cabinet members.

Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Salim Al Zoubi, Minister of Interior Jawdat Esbou and Health Minister Mamduh Al Abbadi will go to Ramtha Thursday for meetings with local officials and representatives to discuss various projects in their areas.

The border post was visited Tuesday by the ministers of Tourism, Public Works and Housing, and Water and Irrigation, who inspected work underway for setting up a JD 2.5 million complex to serve as an administrative and customs post for travellers.

Local people and merchants in

Ramtha fear they will suffer because they might be losing their livelihood, which consists mostly of transit services to travellers and shoppers of various goods across the Jordanian-Syrian border, according to Ramtha residents.

The three ministers visiting the Ramtha district Tuesday held a meeting at the border post site with the Mafrag governor, director of local government departments and prominent representatives of the local community.

The meeting discussed ways of facilitating the movement of passengers across the border post and providing them with the best services.

The ministers praised Armed Forces personnel and units for their cooperation with the official departments in helping them pro-

vide services to the citizens.

Work at the site is expected to be finished within the coming two months. The JD 2.5 million project is carried out by eight local contracting companies under the supervision of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing.

After the project is finished, the border post will include 18 buildings.

The ministers held another meeting at Al Ruweishid town municipality building.

The meeting, which was attended by several government department directors and tribal leaders in the area, reviewed the needs of the citizens in the region such as electricity, roads, telephone links, water, health facilities and school buildings.

The ministers promised to study the citizens' demands and to refer them to the Council of Ministers for discussion.

Minister implements Supreme Court ruling calling for new elections by Jordanian Women's Federation

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The one-year-old dispute between the Ministry of Social Development and women activists came to an end earlier this week when newly appointed Minister Awni Bashir put into action a January Supreme Court ruling that the Jordanian Women's Federation should hold new elections by appointing a 17-member interim Executive Committee.

The committee has 60 days to complete the task of setting up new elections in the capital as well as in 7 municipal chapters of the federation.

Minister Bashir said that the interim committee could have its 60 days term extended but that he expects the committee to finish their duties by the end of the first 60 days.

"The 17-member committee represents all political affiliations as well as municipal and regional groupings," Mr. Bashir told the Jordan Times. "They are a true representation of Jordanian women and I expect that this group will have their act together in 60 days and then elections will be held then."

The interim Executive Committee is expected to draw up new electoral rules in which every 50 members of the federation, either independent or members of a society, will have three chosen representatives at the General

Congress, which elects the National Executive Committee.

"We met for the first time today and we are committed to holding elections as soon as we possibly can," Interim Executive Committee President Siham Al Kassam said Wednesday.

"There is a great deal of cooperation and I see no sign that ideological differences will come in the way of federation work again," she said.

But other federation members said they feared that the Islamist women, who had taken virtual hold of the federation since last August, were not enthusiastic about the new arrangements.

"The feud is not over. It has only changed," said one federation insider who asked to remain anonymous. "The Islamists will think of new tactics to tackle this problem, but they won't just forget it."

The feud among the women and the ministry was based on

allegations of gerrymandering and illegal municipal and national elections held last August.

Technically, the feud should have ended in mid-May when the Supreme Court ruled the elections illegal and void.

The minister of social development and social affairs at the time, a staunch Islamist who sexually segregated his ministry during his seven month term in office, failed to implement the Supreme Court decision and call for new elections in the legally

given time of 120 days.

As a result, tensions between the women activists and the ministry as well as the Executive Committee members of the Jordanian Women's Federation reached an all time high. A memorandum was sent to the then Prime Minister Mudar Badran asking him to personally step in to call for new elections.

The dispute was based on

ideological differences between secular and Islamist women leaders. The seculars, who were voted out of office last August due to what the court ruled were improperly divided electoral districts and electoral rules, charged that politicised elements in the Ministry of Social Development were largely behind the problems the federation was facing with political plurality.

Although the women's federation, which represents up to 9,000

Jordanian women in all parts of the country, is not officially politicised, it has become a showplace of sorts for political prowess.

During the conflict women representing independent, leftist and pan-Arab political trends were pitted against Islamic women purportedly supported by the Muslim Brotherhood movement.

"The differences between the women is a reflection of the political differences in the rest of the country. We are a mirror image of each other," said one federation member summing up

the situation.

Committee urges Arab World to expand vocational education

AMMAN (J.T.) — A five-member committee charged by the Arab countries to help upgrade vocational training in the Arab World with assistance from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) concluded a three-day meeting in Amman Wednesday by issuing a set of recommendations and ideas.

The committee, which is based in Amman, adopted a plan of action for 1991-1992 and urged national governments in the Arab World to individually seek help from the concerned world organ-

isations for their own endeavours in vocational training.

A final statement issued at the conclusion of the committee's three-day meeting underlined the importance of giving attention to vocational training for women in the Arab World and urged Arab states to consider the establishment of documentation and information centres about education in general and vocational training in particular.

The statement urged the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development to finance Arab countries' vocational training en-

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Deadline extended

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Interior announced Wednesday the extension of the date set for exchanging Iraq-Kuwait car plates until Aug. 15. The ministry's sources called on the citizens concerned not to delay the process until after this deadline.

Upper House to meet

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi decided to call the House for a meeting on Saturday at 10 a.m.

Weaving exhibit to be held

AMMAN (Petra) — The Bani Hamida Women's Weaving Project Thursday will hold an exhibition of its products. On display at the exhibition will be rugs and other handicrafts.

Amman Chamber of Industry to open office at Sahab Industrial City

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Amman Chamber of Industry will soon open an office at the Sahab Industrial City in order to offer better service to Jordanian industrialists and factory owners.

The announcement was made by the Chamber's Board Chairman Khalid Abu Hassan during a visit to the industrial city at Sahab, southeast of Amman.

Mr. Abu Hassan discussed with Dr. Fayed Suheimat, the director general of the Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC), a number of matters related to arrangements for the new office, its functions and future plans.

The office will work closely with local industrialists and factory owners, offering them channels of contact with the outside world. Dr. Suheimat expressed satisfaction with the ongoing cooperation between the Chamber and the JIEC, who are promoting industry and stimulating exports.

Last Monday Dr. Suheimat said that the Sahab Industrial City was witnessing a growing demand of investors seeking to

establish new industrial projects after a break of several months because of the Gulf crisis.

During the first half of 1991, the city has witnessed the emergence of 25 new industrial companies with capital totalling JD 13 million, Dr. Suheimat said. The new firms created 600 new jobs.

Dr. Suheimat said that the Sahab Industrial City now houses 213 projects with a total capital investment of JD 117 million.

Mr. Abu Hassan said that the companies and factories established at Sahab Industrial City are owned by Jordanians or jointly between Jordanians and other Arab and foreign countries. He said that the Chamber of Industry hopes to open offices in other cities in Jordan.

Dr. Suheimat told Mr. Abu Hassan that the JIEC will offer the Chamber of Industry all the facilities it needs for its operations.

Mr. Abu Hassan was accompanied on the visit by the members of the chamber's Board of Directors, who toured the various parts of the industrial complex.

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On the committee are members representing Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Iraq and Yemen.

In addition to the U.N.-sponsored vocational training projects, the participants discussed the prospects of setting up a regional network to provide information and data about vocational training.

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Cohesiveness at a critical stage

THE Arab Nation is at a critical phase. An opportunity is here at last to realise the long-sought objective of peace in the Middle East. If the Arab World plays its cards right, there is an even chance that the usurped Arab rights could be regained from the Israelis before it becomes too late. Of course, that is not to say that the path is clearly laid out. On the contrary, danger lurks at every turn. But then that should not dissuade us from pursuing the right track and approach to the goal of peace.

There is no doubt Israel is more aware of this situation than anyone else and is trying harder than ever to sow dissension among Arab ranks so that a coherent Arab position will be missing when the phase of actual negotiations begins.

What we are hearing in the media today is Israeli drums beating, clearly aimed at distorting Arab thinking and creating further divisions in the Arab World.

Precisely the lesson that should be understood first and foremost in this situation is to take to every step with utmost caution. The Arabs should not let themselves be taken in or swayed by the kind of rhetoric and disinformation emanating from Israel, which throughout the years has always made gains by dividing the Arabs.

Instead of levelling charges and fighting among themselves, the Arabs should be more interested in forging a united strategy capable of confronting every Israeli move and deviator tactics aimed at shifting Arab attention away from the crux of the matter towards peripheral issues.

For one thing, there is an immense amount of reports originating from Israel as to the very nature and objective of the proposed conference and the participation of the various parties involved in the Middle East conflict. Instead of rushing into Israeli-designed conclusions and resorting to hasty actions, we should put our heads together, weigh and study each and every piece of information and determine how relevant it is to the central Arab objective of a just and honourable peace settlement which will allow the region's people to live a decent life.

The key to success in the Arab endeavour to achieve this end is cohesiveness to draw clear lines between reality and falsehood. And as long as this element remains missing in the Arab approach, there is little hope of any light at the end of the tunnel.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i daily Wednesday bitterly criticised Iran for attacking Arab countries now oriented towards reaching a settlement with Israel over the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict. The paper noted that Tehran has attacked Arab states efforts to bring an end to the suffering of the Palestinian people and called for jihad in order to achieve that goal. The Arabs would have accepted Tehran's views had the Iranian regime not sided with the Western alliance in its aggression on Iraq and the Arab governments and might have re-examined their position had they known that Iran was genuine in its calls, the paper noted. It said that the Iranians have not only sided with the U.S.-led aggression on Iraq, but caused more devastation and suffering in Iraq by sending in infiltrators and trouble-makers to destroy their Arab neighbour. The Iranians have stopped being neutral in the Iraqi-Western conflict and joined the aggressors causing sufferings to the Iraqi people who are already suffering from the economic embargo let alone the devastation caused by the Western aggression, the paper noted. Indeed, all Arabs are committed to the principles of jihad and upholding the Islamic faith, but they also realise that the Iranians have sold out their relation with their Arab Muslims and caused more devastation to the Arabs and Muslims of Iraq, the paper noted. It advised Iran to stop issuing attacks against or advice to the Arabs on how to handle their own affairs. The paper said that the Arabs who had been stabbed by Iran in the back can only reject anything coming out from Tehran.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily Wednesday urged Arab League Secretary General Esmar Abdul Meguid to interfere with the Saudi authorities and facilitate land travel between Saudi Arabia and Jordan. Salah Abdal Samad said that any move by the Arab League in that direction is bound to help end differences among Arab states, which is being sought by the Arab League at present. The writer focused attention on the plight of the Jordanian expatriates working in Saudi Arabia under contract and spending their holidays in the Kingdom at present and said that they are finding it more and more difficult to travel back by land to Saudi Arabia due to the long delay by the Saudi embassy in Amman to issue the necessary visas. The writer said that these expatriates hold valid contracts to work in Saudi Arabia and they cannot travel with their families and their belongings back to work there by plane and have to return by land as they had entered the Jordanian territories. The writer said facilitating the travel of Arabs across Arab borders should by no means be linked to the political stands of governments which might have differences of some kind. He said that the present cloudy skies prevailing in the Arab World are bound to be cleared sooner or later and the Arab citizens everywhere should, therefore, remain close and cooperating with one another on brotherly and amicable basis.

Citizens of Israel are not equal

By Israel Shahak

FOR over 200 years Jews have been demanding equality in every state in which they happened to live, with the notable exception of Israel, which by contrast has always stood by a principled denial of equality to all non-Jews. In its origins, this fact derives from the principles of the Zionist movement which, from its very inception long before the establishment of Israel, staunchly opposed the idea of granting equality to non-Jews.

This article seeks to describe some of the legal discriminations related to inequality between Israeli citizens; it leaves aside the much more ruthless forms of discrimination applied in the occupied territories.

Redemption of the land

One of the most important of these legal discriminations applies to land located in Israel's territory and its "redemption" (gerusha). The very term "redemption" is borrowed from religion. In Judaism it refers to the salvation of an individual soul, but also to the salvation of the Jewish people to be achieved when the Messiah comes. Consequently, the expression "unredeemed" carries a strong connotation of impurity and taint.

In this meaning, the terms are taught to Jewish children in Israel in every school from the tenderest age, and to children of staunch Zionists in the diaspora. Their misuse for quite mundane purposes can be dangerous, in the same way as the misuse of sacred Islamic terms by secular Arab chauvinist, like Saddam Hussein, can be dangerous. As taught to little children in Israel, the "Redemption of Land" doctrine simply says that if a plot of land in the whole "Land of Israel" is either collectively or individually owned by Jews, it is "redeemed," and if not, it is "unredeemed." In that form, the connection of the doctrine with government policies is transparent. For it follows that "to redeem land," i.e. to transfer it from non-Jewish to Jewish ownership, is a foremost national enterprise, is a foremost national enterprise, whereas failure to do so is calamitous.

But in addition to preventing the sale of real estate to non-Jews, Heimanuta has other concerns. Yediot Acharonot last year

reported how Heimanuta was also "secretly subsidising apartments in Upper Nazareth for their Jewish tenants so as to stop Israeli Arabs from competing for them." Protests against this state of affairs, couched in the strongest terms possible, periodically appear in the Hebrew press.

In Ha'aretz, on Feb. 10, Professor Uzi Orman, writing under the suggestive title of "An Amazing Resemblance to South Africa," argued as follows:

The ownership of land in Israel remains legally under the purview of the Israel Lands Authority (ILA). In accordance with an agreement worked out with the JNF, the ILA upholds all JNF regulations concerning the land under its control. This land can never be sold, only leased out. In this way, the ILA officials can decide who is to be leased a plot, or a house, or an apartment in a housing project. In so doing the ILA applies a clear-cut "basic standard".... Whoever is registered as a "Jew" is fully eligible for a lease in a greater part of the country, including its cities and settlements (in Israel); but whoever is not so registered is barred from occupying real estate in most of the country's territory. In this way, the law and various regulations enforce what could be referred to as physical residential segregation both of individuals and of whole communities, organised in separate "Bantustans."

As Professor Orman and other commentators make clear, the area on which these racist restrictions apply amount to 92 per cent of the land of pre-1967 Israel. In a subsequent article in Ha'aretz, Orman states: "It is impossible to deny that Israel is an apartheid state. This apartheid has been entrenched in a system of laws, regulations and practices which govern the operation of state institutions." However he notes that contrary to the situation with regard to land where, as we have seen, the apartheid is open and blatant, "what characterises most of those discriminatory law is that on the surface, they do not appear to be discriminatory. However, a more in-depth analysis of some of the basic ones quickly reveal the extent to which they discriminate

between "Jews" and "non-Jews." By studying them one cannot fail to reach a conclusion that Israel is an apartheid state, and that apartheid not only manifests itself socially, but that it is also embedded in the legal system.

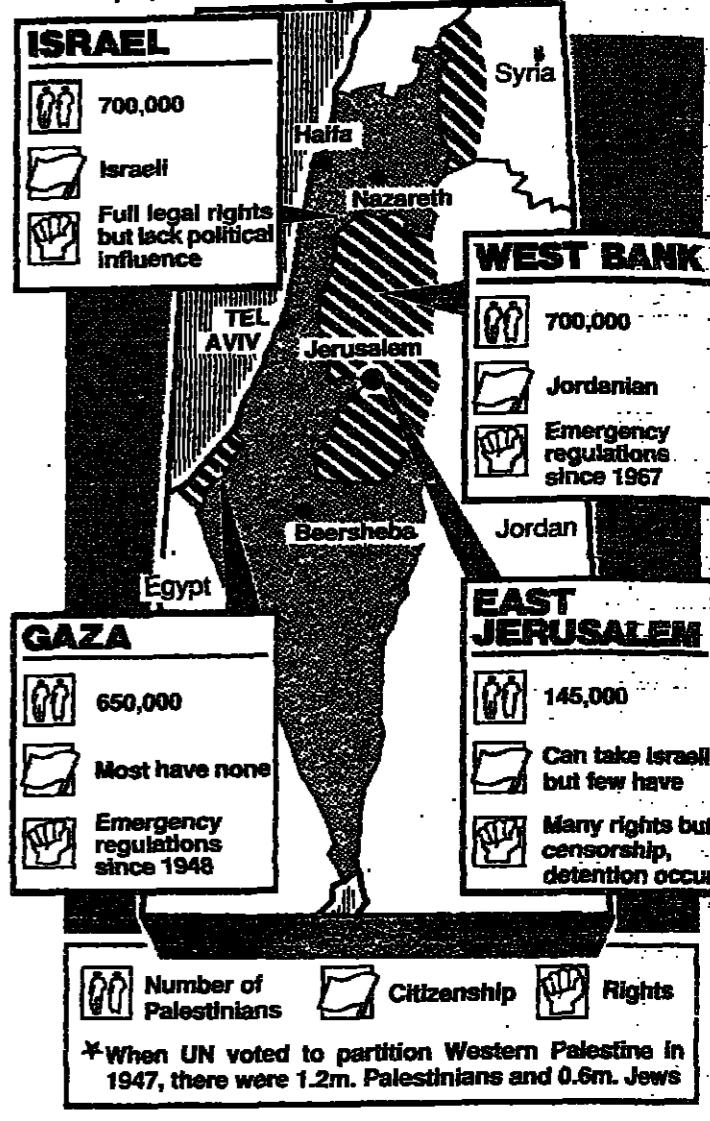
The Laws of Entry and of Return

Among his examples is the 1982 Law of Entry into Israel, which was apparently legislated simply to regulate entry into the country. However, all its clauses, save the one making it obligatory to enter by way of an official border control point, are intended to make a clear distinction between foreign citizens who are Jewish and those who are not. Yet the words "Jew" and "non-Jew" do not appear. So it is, for instance, that the law stipulates that whoever "does not hold an immigration visa or immigration certificate" can be immediately deported by the minister of the interior, or can be denied a visa at any time. As for the explanation or definition of who qualifies for an immigration visa, one must seek the answer in another law, the Law of Return. The answer: Jews.

However, the authority vested in the minister of the interior to deny entry to foreign citizens if there is reason to suspect they may harm the public is only applicable to non-Jews. The minister of the interior does not have the authority to deny any Jew—even if he is a scoundrel of the first order who can be counted on to do harm—the right to settle in Israel. The reason: Jews do not need permits to settle in Israel.

Only a foreign citizen who is not a Jew needs such a permit. Jews arriving in Israel from abroad almost immediately receive an "immigration certificate" which provides them with "citizenship by virtue of having returned," as though they had been citizens of the country for generations. They also immediately acquire the right to vote in elections and to be elected to the Knesset. While the minister of the interior has the authority—albeit, authority which cannot be exercised without great difficulty—to deny "immigration visas" to Jews, once a Jew enters the country, the minister

The plight of the Palestinians
5m. people consider themselves Palestinians, 1.7m. live in Jordan



of the interior cannot do anything about it, and does not even have the authority to withdraw residence permits from undesirables. In regard to non-Jews, the situation is quite different: the minister of the interior can withdraw their permits even if they have been living here for years, not under the Law of Return but under the law governing entry into Israel.

Many more examples of such apartheid laws can be given and I can quote here only Orman's summary of the situation: "Blatant

discrimination against non-Jews can also be found in other laws dealing with the acquisition of property, government support for young couples, educational curricula, and government expenditure for schools, to cite just a few examples. The routine means for enforcing discrimination is the ID card, which everyone is obliged to carry at all times. ID cards list "nationality," which can be "Jewish," "Arab," "Druze," "Circassian," "Samaritan" or "foreign."—Middle East International, London.

Heavens on a hair-trigger

By John Gribbin

THE discovery, announced last week, that ozone depletion is occurring twice as fast as had been thought over Europe and North America has pulled the rug from under the complacent belief that the ozone "problem" had been solved.

Even though many countries are taking action to phase out of CFCs that damage the ozone layer of the stratosphere, it is clear that ozone depletion will get much worse, reaching maximum severity about the year 2000, before the wound begins to heal. Over the next 10 years, the depletion may become twice as great as we have already experienced, and conditions will not return to those of the early 1970s until after the middle of the 21st century.

The prospect is alarming, because ozone in the stratosphere—concentrated between about 15km and 30km above our heads—shields us from the sun's ultraviolet radiation. This causes sunburn in small doses, and skin cancer and eye cataracts in larger doses. It also damages plants: some studies have shown that a 25 per cent increase in the amount of ultraviolet reduces the yield of soybean by the same amount. And each 1 per cent decrease in the amount of ozone overhead may increase by 2 per cent the amount of ultraviolet reaching the ground.

In 1984, scientists from the British Antarctic Survey reported that they had discovered a "hole" in the ozone layer above the continent. Fortunately, Antarctica is an almost unpopulated region; but subsequent studies have shown that in each southern spring as much as half the ozone above Antarctica disappears, before being gradually replenished in summer by air moving in from lower latitudes. A similar effect occurs over the North Pole, but it is less intense because the northern stratosphere never gets as cold as the air above Antarctica.

Intensive scientific research in the late eighties established the cause of this ozone depletion beyond reasonable doubt. The ultimate culprit is chlorine which is carried into the stratosphere by molecules of CFCs, the compounds that have been widely used in spray cans, refrigerators, and to make the bubbles in foamed plastic.

The chlorine is released in an active form by reactions which take place on the surface of tiny ice crystals in clouds high above Antarctica during the long, dark winter, and it does its damage to the ozone layer when stimulated



"The chlorine is released in an active form by reactions which take place on the surface of tiny ice crystals in clouds high above Antarctica during the long, dark winter, and it does its damage to the ozone layer when stimulated by the return of sunlight in the spring."

by the return of sunlight in the spring.

As a result of this discovery many industrialised countries, including Britain, the rest of the EC, and the United States, signed an agreement known as the Montreal Protocol under which most releases of CFCs will be phased out by the end of the century. Britain and some other countries have gone further, committing themselves to phasing it out by 1997.

But some opponents of this action believe this was an over-hasty response to a problem affecting only the far south of our planet; and rapidly developing countries such as India and China, with burgeoning CFC industries, have made no commitment to phase out.

Now the problem has moved closer to home. In the report, Stratospheric Ozone 1991, scientists from the U.K. Stratospheric Ozone Research Group draw attention to new evidence of a large ozone loss above Europe and North America during early spring each year. Satellite measurements show that between 1979 and 1990 the amount of ozone overhead in February and March fell by 8 per cent between about 30° N and 50° N, rough-

ly in a band from Gibraltar to London.

This came as a complete surprise. Nobody understands why it should be happening so far from the polar region, although there seems little doubt that it is also due to the build-up of chlorine there. If the trend persists, there will be an overall loss of 15 per cent of springtime ozone by the year 2000, perhaps allowing 30 per cent more ultraviolet to reach the ground in spring.

Norby is likely to be sunbathing in London in February and March, so the effect on human skin cancers may be small. But crops are already beginning to grow at this time of year, and young seedlings are especially vulnerable to this radiation. Thus it could have implications for agriculture.

But that may be the least of our problems. John Pyle, of the British Antarctic Survey, who headed the team that produced the new report, points out that there was no dramatic change in the Antarctic ozone layer for many years, even though the burden of CFCs in the stratosphere was steadily increasing. But once a critical threshold of CFC concentration had been reached, the hole appeared suddenly, in a

single season.

He fears that as the amount of chlorine in the northern hemisphere continues to increase steadily, it may reach some similar threshold, triggering the sudden development of a hole in the ozone layer over Europe and North America as deep as that over Antarctica.

And this could happen at any time: it may even happen next February.

One possible reason for ozone depletion is that reactions, like those that occur on ice crystals in the polar stratosphere, are taking place in the sulphuric acid droplets that occur naturally in the stratosphere. This is especially alarming since the recent eruption of Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines threw large quantities of sulphur dioxide gas high into the atmosphere, where it reacts to form sulphuric acid.

The satellite Nimbus 7 has tracked a 1,000-mile-long cloud of sulphur dioxide from the eruption, and this is likely to spread large amounts of sulphuric acid into the critical region of the northern hemisphere in the coming winter. Scientists will be watching for an even more dramatic drop in the ozone concentration next spring: over much of Europe it has already fallen by 8 per cent, and it may fall a further 15 per cent.

All of this makes it more urgent than ever to phase out CFC production as rapidly as possible. But there is a sting in the tail of the SORG report. Dr. Pyle and his colleagues point out that some of the substitutes for CFCs, although better for the ozone layer in the long term, may do damage in the short term.

The problem is that CFCs are very long-lived, and do their damage over decades; which is why it will take until at least the year 2050 for the atmosphere to recover, even if CFC production stopped tomorrow. Replacements known as HCFCs do less damage, but they do it more quickly. So, for the next 10 years or so the stratosphere will be suffering a twin assault: from old CFCs, released up to 30 years ago, and from the HCFCs being released today.

The report cautions against "anything other than a very modest substitution of HCFCs for CFCs," and Dr. Pyle urges instead that we learn to be less wasteful in our use of CFCs and their alternatives. It may also be wise for inhabitants of the south of England to stock up on the kind of facial warpaint so beloved by Australian cricketers, which is an effective screen against ultraviolet rays.

It may also be wise for inhabitants of the south of England to stock up on the kind of facial warpaint so beloved by Australian cricketers, which is an effective screen against ultraviolet rays.

Gulf war: Historic or insignificant?

By Mike Feinsilber
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It's been only 51 weeks since Iraq occupied Kuwait, provoking the Gulf war that not long ago seemed like the most important event since the end of World War II.

It kept Americans up all night, "watching the war" on television. President George Bush compared President Saddam to Hitler.

History will tell how, in the longer view, this war will shake down and where it will fit when measured against America's other wars—the revolutionary, the war of 1812, the Mexican, the civil, the Spanish American, World Wars I and II, the Korean, the Vietnam and the cold.

History, said Mr. Gaddis, also will note with astonishment the disproportionality of the casualties: about 200 allied deaths and an estimated 100,000 Iraqi deaths.

As for the war's overall place, Mr. Gaddis judges that American history will deem it as having been in the long-term national interest, will conclude "it was done reasonably well" and will note that precedent of involuntary international inspection.

Yale's Mr. Turner isn't so sure. "As we get more perspective it won't seem so surprising that the greatest military power in the world could defeat a Third World country with a population about twice that of New Jersey's."

Mr. Turner regrets that Mr. Bush did not see his objectives could have been won without war in view of the precedent that would have set.

History, he said, may judge the war as a "missed opportunity to break really new ground" by attempting through economic sanctions to achieve the same goal without bloodshed.

Few hear the oud's sweet song in occupied Arab lands

By Said Ghazzali
The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

Mustafa Kurd described his vision of music lovers crowding his recital, then added "inshallah," or "God willing," an Arabic expression used for wishful but sometimes unlikely developments.

The big night came, and the bearded musician's fingers masterfully caressed the strings of the lute-like oud; his voice rose and fell in harmony, creating a rare musical exhilaration.

But the audience consisted of just 11 people — five Germans, five Palestinians and an American woman. In Arab East Jerusalem, after 43 months of an uprising against Israeli occupation, nights animated by culture are few. Time is passed with television, videocassettes and dozing in the city that Israel occupied in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

It is uncommon for Jeru-

salem's 140,000 Arab residents to seek amusement on the other side of town dominated by their Israeli foes.

Each evening a dark, most Arabs rush home before Israeli police and masked Palestinian youths put on their almost-mighty carnival among the sloping hills and dark streets. Stones and firebombs fly; sometimes answered by police gunfire.

"It is a risk for me to roam through the empty streets and closed shops in the nightime," poet Ali Khalili mused. "Recently I wrote a poem but I do not know what to do with it."

He has published 21 books of poetry and stories, but now there are no readings to introduce new works. Four cultural journals and three publishing houses have closed, at least temporarily, because of financial difficulties after the Gulf war.

Mr. Khalili considers cultural activities "the most important political front" in keeping alive the idea of the

Palestinian nation. Before the Intifada, or uprising, started in December 1987, East Jerusalem was a centre of culture for the occupied West Bank.

There were plays and movies, recitals of music and "dubkeh" folk dancing, and exhibitions of the embroidery that Palestinian women raise to the level of art.

The entertainments were cut short both the sobriety demanded by uprising leaders and curfews ordered by Israeli authorities. A lack of money also is constricting, brought on by the intifada and the Gulf war.

Now, Arab Jerusalem's three cinemas are closed, their exteriors still pasted with tatters of the posters for movies they featured three years ago. A few restaurants are open but without shows of Palestinian dancing and singing.

Cultural activities at Palestinian universities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip also have come to a standstill.

Israel closed the six universities at the start of the uprising, and the two that have been reopened have barely enough funds for classes.

Bir Zeit University in the West Bank, which remains shut, was known for its three-week Soak Okath Cultural Festival each year, named for a valley near Mecca where merchants and tribal leaders used to nominate the best poet in the Arabian peninsula.

In Ramallah, once a summer resort famed for its cool hills among the hot surrounding flatlands, Lana Abu Hijrah and her troupe of Dabkeh dancers still rehearse a few hours a week but sometimes wonder why.

"Curfews and closures made it difficult for us. Sixteen out of 36 dancers stopped coming, and we are not working on new performances," she said.

"Where are the Scouts? Where are the listeners? All have vanished," Kurd said.

Then he added: "Never mind, the old days will come back Inshallah."

spot is that some people who turned away from Palestinian culture are now seeking their roots.

Munir Barakat, an antique dealer with a clientele of tourists and diplomats, notes Palestinians are now buying embroidered dresses and Arab furniture they would have thrown out as old-fashioned a few years back.

Kurd, the oud player and singer, sighed when asked about the cultural scene. He returned to the country after 10 years away, taking his music to the Arab World, Europe and United States. "The old days have gone," he said.

He recalled an evening concert in Ramallah years ago with dozens of boy and girl Scouts beating drums and spectators jumping to their feet and shouting "sing it again, Kurd."

closed since the intifada started in December 1987.



Al Hambra, one of the three cinemas in East Jerusalem, has been closed since the intifada started in December 1987.

Um Qais Museum

A museum for the finds made in excavations of the Roman site of Gadar in today's Northern Jordan was established and recently opened at Um Qais with cultural aid funds from the German Foreign Office.

This contains sculpture (including a statue of the town goddess Tyche, found in the small theatre there), stone ornaments, mosaics, and ceramics, excavated by archaeologists from the Amman-based Germany Protestant Institute for Knowledge of Antiquity in the Holy Land, the German Archaeological Institute, and the Liebieghaus in Frankfurt/Main.

Gadara was a town in the Dekapolis, a federation of towns to which Gerasa (Jerash) and Philadelphia (Amman) also belonged.

The museum is in a house built around the turn of the century at the highest point of an Ottoman settlement.

At the time of the former Ottoman Empire, nomads were settled here so that taxes could more easily be extracted from them. It is presumed that the akropolis in hellenistic Gadar (3rd to 1st century B.C.), known only from written records, was below this settlement. Among other things there existed a celebrated school of philosophy.



The coolness between Prince Charles and Princess Diana has set tongues wagging.

phy here. The town of Pomegranates was destroyed in 63 B.C. and then rebuilt. The settlement was evacuated some years ago and due to be pulled down so as to create space for excavations of the hellenistic fortress.

In order to preserve what for Jordan is a unique settlement, consisting of large and small farms, two buildings

were initially restored using money from the cultural aid fund. One of these, Bait-Al-Rusin, serves as the museum, and the other, Bait Melkawi, provides accommodation for archaeologists during excavations. Another house in the empty settlement is being converted by the Americans to provide tourist facilities.

Kultur Chronik.

By Nermene Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

HE WALKS around with the energy of a young man, talks with the enthusiasm of a discoverer, smiles a knowing smile and never fails to reveal the mysteries surrounding world personalities with the charm of a story teller.

Nassereddine Nashashibi, who can recite stories from memory about film stars such as Asmahan, world leaders like the shah of Iran, Arab leaders including Jams Abdal Nasser, with flair to humour, turns sad when talking about the political state of the Arab World after the Gulf crisis.

The well-known journalist and author of over ten books, turns even sadder and more emotional when describing the situation of his birthplace, Jerusalem, where he now resides after spending many years in different European and Arab capitals.

In all of his interviews with heads of state, Arab or otherwise, Mr. Nashashibi always repeats one question: "What about Jerusalem?" But today, he talks of Jewish settlements around his city, calling them by their Jewish names but never failing to remind his listeners of exactly where they are located in Arab terminology.

His home in Jerusalem, which he inherited from his maternal uncle, Isa'at Nashashibi, is located in Sheikh Jarrah overlooking the Old City of Jerusalem. He

returned to Jerusalem a year ago to renovate his home and find his place in his country.

He relates a telling story of how he found the road on which the house is built, renamed to "Red Cross Road" and fought to have it changed to Isa'at Nashashibi Road to commemorate the memory of his uncle, also a writer himself.

Then he gets excited as he speaks of his achievement comparing his status now with another Jerusalemite who is living on a road that carries a Jewish name.

"They are changing the face of Jerusalem," he says.

With humour, he talks of his walks around the narrow streets of Jerusalem now. "I find myself standing in different corners and reciting Koran for members of my family who lived there or worked there but are no longer alive."

He is at his best when surrounded with fellow Jerusalemites, or even better, fellow Sheikh Jarrah neighbours. "You remember when..." he keeps saying.

But, the nostalgia for the old times in Jerusalem, have not blinded the politically astute writer from moving quickly into the present, and the situation of the Palestinian problem in the aftermath of the Gulf crisis.

"Israel is winning now because we didn't know how to play our cards correctly," he says with obvious disrespect for the Arab position throughout the months of the Gulf

crisis and war.

"I can only say that we were bankrupt both politically and on the media level. It was total bankruptcy," he says.

The interview with the Jordan Times was conducted in the coffee shop of a five-star Amman hotel where Mr. Nashashibi played host to many Jordanians and Palestinians who came to the hotel to meet him and live part of their past with him.

I sought him out because as a teenager I had joined him in his search for old books in the narrow streets of London. He gave anyone who knew him a strong feeling of admiration for the field of journalism. He ignored all the difficulties and highlighted all the pleasures of this profession. To a teenager, the world of journalism was a fairy tale of travels, fame and friends.

His books are widely distributed in the Arab World and have a special characteristic of being written in beautiful classical Arabic but at the same time flowing like a story with barrages of true political happenings.

Even his books on women tell only stories of those who influenced the politicians dictating policies in the Arab World. But one never shakes the feeling that even behind these unveilings there are even more secrets and more channels that the author himself has chosen to leave untouched.

His ability to link the past with the present in his politic-

"I am afraid to say that what was left of our national rights is now totally lost," he adds.

He blames Arab journalists for their inability to be "Palestinian" before anything else. "The Palestinian issue is the core of all issues."

What happened in countries like Egypt and Lebanon, Mr. Nashashibi says, was a rejection of the linkage between the Kuwait crisis and the Palestinian issue. "How could anyone be Palestinian and act this way?" he asks.

What the Arab journalists did, Mr. Nashashibi says, "is follow their own tiny little passports and gave up on all the ideals that should have been symptomatic of our world."

He says the Arab World is still living in a "daze" from the Gulf crisis. "We are still living the effects of the morpheine that we were injected with."

But, in his eternal optimism, he adds that the path to salvation is still there. Mr. Nashashibi still sees a way which could bridge the differences between the states of the Arab World. "Democracy," he says. "Only by democracy can the Arab World ever attempt to bridge differences whether economic or political."

Jordan which has chosen the path of democracy, has taken "the most difficult path in its political history." But, he quickly adds, "in the long run freedom pays."

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ROYAL JORDANIAN



The macho image

By Maha Addasi

THE macho image. Is it here to stay? Just by looking around many people have observed and commented about the attitudes of people who they brush shoulders with in their daily lives.

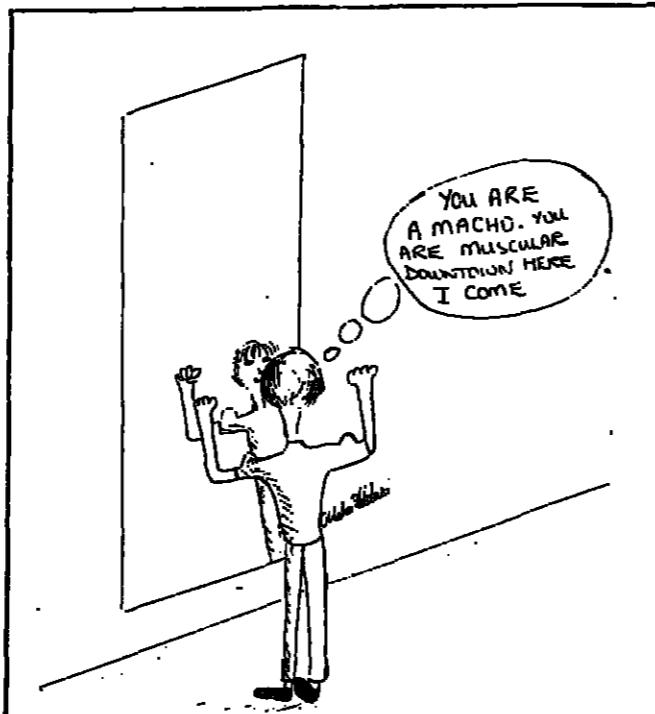
"I walk downtown and almost everyone walks around like they own the sidewalk, when I feel that the most challenging thing they have done that day was pick their teeth," one observer said.

"I have walked in many downtown areas in different countries and the scene is very different there. Everyone seems to be rushing to work or has to get somewhere on time, so they hurry along. Amidst the scurrying people, there is that occasional person who walks down the sidewalk with his biceps stretching the seams of his sleeves and he gives the impression that he thinks he's a gift to mankind," he said.

Another person intervened to say that the macho attitude is amplified most clearly when you are waiting to be served at a restaurant. "The waiter would scan the room and eye contact between you and him is attained, so that the waiter knows for sure that you are ready to order. So what does he do? Being the macho person that he is, he simply ignores you. The restaurant could be empty and he wants you to know that you are at his mercy now. It is so ridiculous. What is more aggravating, they do not even smile when they finally do help you. In different countries, waiters are as much sales people as the owners and managers of restaurants. They always make you feel very welcome and you often go back to the same restaurant because the service is fantastic," he said. "I feel sorry for many restaurant owners here because their waiters — maybe unintentionally — 'shoo' away the customers with their aloofness. I feel something can be done to change that," he said.

Many restaurant owners are pulling their hair out as they have tried almost non-stop to change their waiters' characters so that they can, at least, pretend to be friendly. Many have come to the conclusion that, "the attitude is embedded too deep in those people's personalities that it is futile to attempt to change them."

"We need solutions for this matter," one woman said. "I think that 'information' would be a first step. What should be done is inform people that they should work at anything instead of make a job of lazing around downtown. We must



educate them about achievement. We must tell them that attaining goals that they set for themselves is a positive thing even if it is something as effortless as giving customers a friendly smile if they are waiting on them," she said.

Other people, however, feel that things are best kept the way they are. "When these people saunter downtown thinking they are Clint Eastwood look-alikes, when they cross the street right in front of your car so that you have to skid to a halt to avoid hitting them while they in turn look the opposite way as they cross. When all this is happening these people are minding their own business. I am afraid that if someone volunteers to tell them that they should get jobs where they have to act cordial, and even smile at customers, that they would leer at women and say that it is part of their job description; this is something that would aggravate my wife. I honestly believe that things are best kept exactly as they are. I prefer an angry, macho waiter to a furious wife any day," he said.

"We need solutions for this matter," one woman said. "I think that 'information' would be a first step. What should be done is inform people that they should work at anything instead of make a job of lazing around downtown. We must

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Thursday, July 25

1593 — France's King Henry IV becomes a Roman Catholic.

1689 — France's King Louis XIV declares war on Britain.

1792 — Austria's Duke of Brunswick issues manifesto threatening destruction of Paris if France's royal family is harmed.

1830 — France's King Charles X issues ordinances controlling the press, dissolving legislative chambers and changing electoral system.

1878 — China's first diplomatic mission to United States arrives in Washington.

1907 — Japan obtains protectorate over Korea.

1928 — French forces occupy Damascus; Greeks under King Alexander occupy Adrianople.

1934 — Chancellor Engelbert Dollfuss is assassinated in unsuccessful Nazi coup attempts in Austria.

1943 — Benito Mussolini is forced to resign as premier of Italy during World War II.

1956 — Italian liner Andrea Doria and Swedish ship Stockholm collide off coast of New England, and 50 lives are lost.

1963 — United States, Soviet Union and Britain conclude treaty prohibiting nuclear testing in atmosphere, space or under water.

1969 — Pope Paul VI bans all "artificial birth control methods for Roman Catholics."

1971 — Doctor Christiaan Barnard transplants two lungs and heart into man in Cape Town, South Africa, and the operation is described as "unauthorized and unlawful."

1973 — Federal judge rules that U.S. government must halt bombing of Cambodia on grounds it is "unauthorized and unlawful."

1986 — Masked Sikhs extremists shoot and kill 15 people, 14 of them Hindus, in ambush on bus at railroad crossing in India's Punjab state.

1990 — Liberian rebels attack airfield in Monrovia, closing off that city's last link to outside world.

Friday, July 26

1605 — French Protestants hold assembly at Chateaurenault in defiance of King Henry IV.

1757 — French under D'esc

trees defeat British under Cumberland at Hohenlohe in eastern Germany.

1821 — Turkey and Russia sever relations after Turkey refuses to protect Christian subjects.

1891 — France annexes South Sea island of Tahiti.

1926 — Philippines legislature calls for plebiscite on independence, but it is vetoed by U.S. governor-general.

1942 — British Air Force stages heavy raid on Hamburg in Germany in World War II.

1945 — Britain, United States and China demand Japan's unconditional surrender as terms for peace in World War II.

1952 — Egypt's King Farouk abdicates in favour of infant son, Fuad.

1953 — Fidel Castro begins revolt in Cuba, attacking army barracks at Santiago.

1956 — Egypt's President Jamal Abdul Nasser nationalizes Suez Canal, and Britain, France and United States announce financial retaliation.

1963 — Earthquake hits Skopje, Yugoslavia, taking more than 1,000 lives.

1974 — Constantine Caranikas, new Greek premier, forms civilian cabinet after seven years of military rule in Greece.

1984 — Kuwait's defence minister says emir of Kuwait has ordered air force to shoot on sight any intruder warplanes that violate nation's air space.

1989 — Poland's president rules out turning over government to Solidarity.

1990 — Iraq agrees to pull thousands of troops back from Kuwaiti border after Kuwait agrees to end over-production of oil.

Saturday, July 27

1563 — French army regains Le Havre, France, where English garrison is stricken with plague. Soldiers returning to England introduce the plague.

1655 — Great Elector of Brandenburg concludes defence treaty with Dutch, which starts first northern war when Sweden's King Charles X invades Poland.

1675 — French Marshal Turenne is killed in Battle at Salsbach, marking end of great French victories against Triple Alliance forces.

1710 — British forces score

victory over Spanish at Almudena, Spain.

1795 — Spain signs peace treaty with France, ceding her part of Santo Domingo.

1839 — Opium war between China and Britain begins after Chinese authorities seize and burn British cargoes of opium.

1848 — Russians invade Danubian principalities at request of Turkey to put down revolt there.

1894 — Regent of Korea declares war on China.

1933 — Assyrian Christians are massacred in Iraq.

1941 — Japanese forces land in Indochina during World War II.

1953 — Korean armistice is signed at Panmunjom.

1954 — Britain and Egypt agree on terms ending 72 years of British control of Suez Canal.

1965 — U.S. planes carry out first attacks against anti-aircraft missile sites in North Vietnam.

1978 — U.N. Security Council endorses Western plan for ending guerrilla warfare in South-West Africa and making it independent as new black African state of Namibia.

1987 — Riot police in Sri Lanka clash with Sinhalese Buddhists demonstrating against peace plan aimed at ending bloody rebellion by Tamil Hindus.

1988 — Iraq continues to insist on face-to-face negotiations with Iran before starting any ceasefire in Gulf war.

1990 — Philippine miners rescue two people who had been trapped for 11 days following hotel collapse during earthquake that struck Baguio, killing at least 1,600.

1990 — Poland's president rules out turning over government to Solidarity.

1990 — Iraq agrees to pull thousands of troops back from Kuwaiti border after Kuwait agrees to end over-production of oil.

Sunday, July 28

1643 — English parliamentarian force under Oliver Cromwell takes Gainsborough.

1742 — Peace of Berlin between Austria and Prussia ends first Silesian War.

1794 — French revolutionaries M. Robespierre and A. Saint Just are executed.

1821 — Peru's independence from Spain is declared formally.

1866 — Danish constitution is revised in favour of king and upper house.

1868 — Third Maori war breaks out in New Zealand.

1904 — Russia's Minister of Interior Viacheslav Plehve is assassinated.

1914 — Austria-Hungary

declares war on Serbia, signaling start of World War I.

1937 — Japanese seize Peking in China.

1940 — British forces repulse Nazi attack on Mediterranean island of Malta during World War II.

1945 — U.S. Army bomber crashes into Empire State building in New York City, killing 13 people.

1971 — China's Premier Chou En Lai says Peking government will refuse to enter United Nations if Nationalist China remains member.

1976 — Britain severs relations with government of Uganda's President Idi Amin.

1986 — Car stuffed with explosives rips through densely populated residential area of east Beirut, killing at least 32 and wounding 140.

1988 — Tamil rebels kill 14 Sinhalese farmers, and Sri Lanka government troops are put on security alert.

1989 — India agrees to pull its troops out of Sri Lanka.

1990 — Alberto Fujimori takes over as head of government in Peru.

Monday, July 29

1900 — Italy's King Humbert I is assassinated by an anarchist.

1921 — All-India Congress decides to boycott Prince of Wales' visit to India.

1922 — Allied powers issue ultimatum forbidding Greeks to occupy Constantinople (Istanbul).

1937 — Japanese seize Tientsin in China; 18-year-old Crown Prince Fumihito is invested as king of Egypt.

1940 — Germany's all-out Blitz against Britain begins in World War II.

1959 — Hawaii votes for first time as one of United States, and elects first orientation to be seated in U.S. Congress.

1973 — Voters in Greece endorse decisions by their leaders to abolish Greek monarchy and install George Papadopoulos as president.

1986 — South Africa's President P.W. Botha rejects British foreign secretary's plea for unconditional release of Nelson Mandela.

1989 — Israeli officials defend abduction of a pro-Iranian Muslim cleric.

1990 — Soviet government acknowledges cigarette shortage throughout the nation.

1990 — By the Associated Press

The golden nightingale (Part One)

By E. Yaghi

In a cool green forest where the half-hidden sun shines gracefully on the inhabitants, a unique golden nightingale lived. She loved her forest home with the smell of the pine trees, the wild flowers and the clear delicious water of the forest spring that bubbled out from between the mossy rocks.

"Oh, I am so lucky," said the golden nightingale to herself. "My voice is as clear as the pure mountain stream, my colour is unparalleled and I am the envy of all the birds in the forest."

Frequently, the golden nightingale would go to the mountain stream to look at her reflection before taking a refreshing sip of water.

One day while the nightingale was busy admiring herself, she fell into a trap near the stream. She struggled frantically to free herself but to no avail. After giving up hope, she saw men approaching. Their wealthy leader said to the rest. "At last I have caught the most beautiful bird in the world! It must be her voice that rings with such a clear sound through the forest. Handle her with care men!"

After the frightened bird was placed in a box and carried a distance, she saw through a hole, a majestic castle at the edge of the forest. Soon, she was in the castle and felt the box gently lowered. When the box was opened, she heard the man who rendered her capture saying to a gruff, older woman, "mother, at last! Didn't I say I would one day capture the bird with the golden voice? Look at her. She is even more exquisite than her voice!"

"Humph. So? What do you want with a useless bird? If I were you, I'd feed her to the cat or let her fly away before you waste your time and money on her. Where are you going to put the thing?"

"Mother, can't you see," protested the man, "she's unique and enchanting. I'll have the most beautiful cage made for her. A cage of gold to match her colour!"

"At last," thought the bird as the beat of her little heart diminished, "someone who appreciates my beauty and my voice. What a magnificent castle! I shall surely have the most beautiful cage and more than ever be the envy of all the birds in the forest. I do hope they'll put a mirror for me so I will be able to see myself often!" She was happy but there remained with her a feeling of dread towards the man's mother.

Within a few days the bird saw the rich man bringing a golden cage. He gently placed her in it and hung it on the balcony in his large and grand room.

"How beautiful my cage is. It's a treasure!" With delight the golden nightingale jumped on a small golden swing lined with plush red velvet. She took in all her surroundings. Awed, she felt the soft shiny gold bars of the cage with her golden wings. She smelled the newness of her home, and to her supreme delight, there was a little mirror framed with gold.

"When will some of my friends come and see me and my new home? I can hardly wait. My master is a kind, wonderful man. His mother looks very forbidding, but I'm sure she will begin to like me too."

At first the golden nightingale was so involved in her new, rich surroundings that she didn't feel that she was living in a cage and would sing with all her heart. One of her many forest friends who fluttered to the balcony chirped. "Nightingale, you do indeed seem fortunate, but remember, no matter how much your cage glitters, it is still, after all, a cage. It is much better to be free in the forest than to be kept prisoner even in the most beautiful cage."

"You are all envious of my beauty and my cage. What nonsense do you speak of freedom? What is freedom compared to such a life as this?"

So, her friends would bid her farewell and soar up into the clear sky and away to their cool forest home. Unaffected, the nightingale would then go to her little golden mirror and admire herself.

The days pleasantly passed. The rich man was kind and gentle to the captive bird. He would feed her scraps from his own plate. His mother, however, would gruffly pass the golden cage and glare at the little bird. A chill rippled down her spine as the air in the room turned to ice.

"If only I could just fly once again in the forest. It only I could drink from the clear spring and bask on the mossy rocks. But, how fickle I am! I have everything. I am so happy!"

The nightingale, nevertheless, began to long more and more for her forest home. As she was moping, the rich man's mother came and sat in the balcony and roughly stared at the nightingale. The bird watched as the old woman's gnarled fingers touched the soft silver that was set on the table in the balcony. She smelled the fresh-butter, bread, and tangy mint tea. When the rich man entered, he neared the cage with a smile, "Hello, my lovely! And good morning, mother. How are you today?"

"Humph! It would be much better if you would get rid of that horrible bird! Isn't it time you thought of getting married? I want some grandchildren before I die."

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY

Cheers, L.A. Law and Murphy Brown lead Emmy mountain race

By Deborah Hastings
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — NBC's *Cheers* and *L. A. Law* and CBS' *Murphy Brown* have tied with a leading 13 nominations apiece in nominations for awards recognizing excellence in American television.

The 43rd annual primetime Emmy Awards nominations also honoured *Home Box Office's* movie for television, *The Josephine Baker Story*, with 12 nominations, followed by the syndicated series *Star Trek: The Next Generation* with 10.

The nominations were announced by the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences at the organisation's lavish new headquarters in North Hollywood.

The Emmy Awards presentation ceremony will be broadcast live from the Pasadena Civic Auditorium on Aug. 25. Technical awards in 49 categories will be bestowed on Aug. 24 at a taped black-tie banquet.

Voting is done by panels of directors, actors and writers.

CBS' *Sarah Plain And Tall* and the live broadcast of the 63rd Annual Academy Awards were next with nine nominations each.

NBC led the networks with 86 bids, followed by ABC with 84 nominations. CBS was third with 69 and Fox, which last year received 26 nominations, received only 11 this time.

There were 328 nominations in 77 categories.

Nominated for outstanding drama series were ABC's canceled *China Beach* and *Thirtysomething*. CBS' acclaimed new series *Northern Exposure* was also nominated, as was *Quantum Leap* on NBC and the network's *L. A. Law*, which won last year.

In the outstanding comedy series category, NBC's venerable favorite *Cheers* and *The Golden Girls* were named. CBS' favorites, *Designing Women* and *Murphy Brown*, also were nominated. They were joined by ABC's *The Wonder Years*.

Bids for outstanding lead actress in a comedy series included *Delta Burke* of *Designing Women*, whose contract with the show was not renewed this year. Blair Brown of the syndicated *The Days And Nights Of Molly Dodd*, Kirstie Alley of *Cheers* and last year's winner, Candice Bergen of *Murphy Brown*. Perennial nominee Betty White from *The Golden Girls* was again named.

Ted Danson of *Cheers* was nominated for the male comedy series actor Emmy, followed by Craig T. Nelson of ABC's *Coach*, Burt Reynolds from CBS' *Evening Shade*, Richard Mulligan of NBC's *Empty Nest* and John Goodman from ABC's *Roseanne*.

Peter Falk as ABC's *Columbo* led the list for outstanding lead actor in a drama series. Michael Moriarty of NBC's *Law And Order* and James Earl Jones of ABC's *Gabriel's Fire* also were named, as were Scott Baqua of NBC's time-travelling series *Quantum Leap* and the star of ABC's bizarre and now-canceled *Twin Peaks*, Kyle MacLachlan.

Two of the actresses nominated for outstanding actress in a drama series will be out of work come next season. Dana Delaney of the now-defunct *China Beach* again was nominated for her role as nurse Colleen McMurphy. Patricia Heaton also was named for her portrayal of cancer-stricken Nancy Weston in ABC's *Thirtysomething*, which has been canceled. Sharon Gless of CBS' *The Trials Of Rosie O'Neill* and Angela Lansbury of CBS' *Murder, She Wrote* also were named.

In the miniseries or special category, ABC's presentation of *Separate But Equal* received seven nominations, including best actor for Sidney Poitier's depiction of Thurgood Marshall.

By Carrie Figdor
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — There's a small, deep dimple in Lea Salonga's cheek that just about winks when she smiles, which is often. The star of *Miss Saigon* has a lot to smile about.

When her contract for *Miss Saigon* ends next March, the 19-year-old Filipina stage veteran anticipates another career. "It would be nice to try records and all when this is over," said Miss Salonga, an admirer of Paula Abdul, Janet Jackson, and Barbara Streisand.

From a teenager who already has musical and albums in her home country to her credit, such talk appears realistic. Miss Salonga is both very determined

and very level-headed.

Her voice is strong, pure and sure, six performances a week. It helped her win this season's Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle awards for best actress in a musical.

As Kim, a poor Vietnamese girl who becomes a prostitute in war-torn Saigon and falls in love with an American soldier, she sings in almost every scene of the Broadway hit.

The musical — a retelling of Puccini's *Madame Butterfly* — evades the issue of what Kim does for a living. She

arrives at the brothel a virgin in a long white gown, and goes through a wedding ceremony after she and the soldier, Chris, fall instantly in love. Saigon falls to the North Vietnamese, and the couple is torn apart.

Several scenes later, after she's fled to Bangkok's red-light district, a boy fathered by Chris appears. At the end, as pure in spirit as she was in the first scene, Kim calmly kills herself so the child can be adopted by the now-married Chris and go to the United States without her.

"She probably wasn't so goody-two-shoes, because she's very tough," Miss Salonga observes of the character she plays.

Much like Kim, Miss Salonga seems innocent, even prim. She maintains her strict sense of propriety despite her success.

She had done a promotional campaign in the Philippines for "responsible sexual behaviour in teenagers," singing with the pop group Menudo.

She was chosen for the campaign because of her voice — and her reputation. "I was really known in Manila to be antisepic, clean — has no boyfriend, was hard-working, very disciplined," she said.

It's a reputation she said she still has and doesn't mind having. It also helps that she is "very one-track minded" when it comes to her career.

"Keep your goal in mind and just basically work hard to get what you want," she advised. "Don't listen to anybody who says you can't do it."

She was doing *The Fantasticks* in Manila, her hometown, in November 1988 when British producer Cameron Macintosh came looking for someone to play Kim in the London production of *Miss Saigon*.

"My mom at first was reluctant to let me (audition) because she said, 'oh, they're probably fly-by-nights who come into the country and

probably take advantage of young girls,'" Miss Salonga said.

But audition she did, after being assured Macintosh was "for real," and by June 1989, at age 17, Miss Salonga was in rehearsals for what turned out to be London's hit musical of the season.

It took 10 years of hard work to get to Broadway, plus a dash of being "at the right place at the right time," she says.

Her first musical in Manila, at age 7, was *The King And I*. by age 9 she had the starring role in *Annie*. She was also played in *Ca On A Hot Tin Roof*.

Miss Salonga is one of the few stars who has been "certified" a unique talent by Actors Equity, the actors guild.

Macintosh also fought for and won the right to have Jonathan Pryce, a Welsh actor, perform the role he created in the London production of *Miss Saigon*, that of the engineer, Kim's opportunistic Eurasian pimp. Some U.S. performers had insisted the role go to an American of Asian ancestry.

Macintosh then battled for Miss Salonga, who was also initially barred from the New York production because Actors Equity wanted Macintosh to use an Asian-American for the role of Kim.

"America is supposed to

be a place where regardless of your racial origin you could make it. ... That's the dream. So I was pretty angry when I was denied access into the United States," she says.

A New York union-management arbitrator ruled that she could join the cast on the basis of an Actors Equity rule that permits the use of "unique services" from abroad.

Performing in both London and New York has allowed Miss Salonga to observe how British and American audiences and casts differ in their reactions to the issues of race and the Vietnam War.

In Britain, she said, audiences regarded the musical as just another show by the French team that wrote *Les Misérables*. Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg.

Preparing for the U.S. production, cast members were shown documentaries about the war and talked with a Vietnamese refugee and a Vietnam War veteran who had lived through a situation much like Chris's.

For Americans "it's not just another show," says Miss Salonga, who was three years old when the real Saigon fell in 1975.

"In the London production there were more Filipinos from the Philippines and you could really see this wall between the whites and the browns — they kept apart somehow," Miss Salonga said. "Here everyone's American — very American, besides myself and Jonathan Pryce, and the company really gels in. It's a really good mixture."



Willy Falk and Lea Salonga in *Miss Saigon*

By Giles Elgood
Reuter

LONDON — Paul Chan serves up blue suede shoes with the sweet and sour pork when he entertains customers at his Elvis Presley Chinese Restaurant.

Chan, 42, is the owner and star attraction at the Grace-lands Palace, a South London eating house named after the Memphis, Tennessee, home of the late king of rock 'n' roll.

When guests have eaten their fill of crispy seaweed and smoked shredded chicken, Hong Kong-born Chan dresses up in an Elvis-style

white and rhinestone-studded suit, turns up the backing music and launches into *Heartbreak Hotel* and other favourites.

"Ladies and gentlemen, it is my great pleasure to introduce to you the man you have all been waiting for — the one and only — the Oriental Elvis — Mr. Paul Chan," he says, laying the receiver on the bar and rips into the next verse.

Chan, who heard his first Elvis record — *Heartbreak Hotel* — when he was 12, started singing in public when he opened his first restaurant three years ago.

"I don't mind if people say I'm crazy. I don't mind if people laugh. The main thing

is that I like Elvis," he said. "No Elvis — no rock and roll."

Mixing rock and roll with Chinese food has proved so successful that he was able to open another restaurant a year ago in the town of Sevenoaks, 30 kilometres away.

He sets himself a punishing schedule, singing in both places on the same night.

On Fridays and Saturdays Chan offers special Elvis nights with a set banquet and programme of a dozen of the singer's greatest hits, but he is more than willing to sing seven days a week and often does.

"I want his memory kept alive all the time in my restaurant so I like to sing to my customers and help them remember this superstar. He is the king of rock and roll for ever," Chan said in an interview.

"I like to rock like him, sing like him and dress like him," he said. "My audiences are sometimes a little bit crazy like me. Some of them want to sing by themselves so I just give them the microphone and let them carry on."

One member of a stage party held at the restaurant decides he wants to have a go.

Flushed with embarrassment, he has to hand back the microphone after failing to remember the words of *Teddy Bear*.

Chan said he never saw Elvis perform on stage but he has made the pilgrimage to Memphis where the overweight and drug-addicted singer was found dead in his bathroom in 1977.

The death of Elvis has a big effect on the young Chan, who shaved his head as a token of remembrance for his idol.

"I felt very sad. I couldn't sleep for a week. I didn't eat because my hero died."

Whole lotta shakin' at the Elvis Presley Chinese Restaurant

By Giles Elgood

LONDON — Paul Chan serves up blue suede shoes with the sweet and sour pork when he entertains customers at his Elvis Presley Chinese Restaurant.

Chan, 42, is the owner and star attraction at the Grace-lands Palace, a South London eating house named after the Memphis, Tennessee, home of the late king of rock 'n' roll.

When guests have eaten their fill of crispy seaweed and smoked shredded chicken, Hong Kong-born Chan dresses up in an Elvis-style

white and rhinestone-studded suit, turns up the backing music and launches into *Heartbreak Hotel* and other favourites.

"Ladies and gentlemen, it is my great pleasure to introduce to you the man you have all been waiting for — the one and only — the Oriental Elvis — Mr. Paul Chan," he says. "But I have so much to say. I've seen so much, heard so much, experienced so much, that I guess to a certain extent I triumph over the technology. There's this overwhelming feeling, when you sense that you are empowered by what you know, that you just have to transcend your technological limitations."

Those limitations can be enormous for someone working in a Third World country. Eighty per cent of the footage in *A Legacy Of Violence*, for example, is taken from film archives — "Begged, borrowed, stolen, whatever," Deocampo says. Only 20 per cent is original, and it consists mostly of shaky, poorly lit, live-action or interview sequences. There is nothing terribly radical about the montages or the style, but the video's energy and its idiosyncratic pacing make it more powerful than a more "professional" production. The total cost of the project was well under \$3,000.

He says he would prefer to see a large number of filmmakers producing small, highly focused films than a few studios producing bland imitations of American movies. "I'm really talking about something very intimate, almost like chamber music," he explains. "I'm so disillusioned with the Hollywood big production movies. We can't afford that here. That's not the kind of film-making that we need now. It does not suit the development of this country."

He says he is not concerned by the technical fail-

ings of his own films because content is more important to him. "Deep inside I have this phobia of technology, and I really don't know how I cope," he says. "But I have so much to say. I've seen so much, heard so much, experienced so much, that I guess to a certain extent I triumph over the technology. There's this overwhelming feeling, when you sense that you are empowered by what you know, that you just have to transcend your technological limitations."

International recognition has led to a growing local awareness of alternative film, especially in the universities. There have been some advances in the commercial sphere as well. Deocampo, whose documentaries often deal with the role of media and the control of information, is currently working on a television series on gender in the cinema. (His own 1987 film, *Oliver*, about a transvestite night-club performer, has become something of a cult classic on the university circuit.) He acknowledges that the move into television will be a big step — a step he is not sure he is ready to take.

He has another big project in mind as well: a narrative movie that will use his own family's history as a mirror for Philippine history. His grandfather witnessed the Filipino revolt against Spain in 1898; his father (an alcoholic who disappeared in 1984) witnessed World War II; and Deocampo himself witnessed (and filmed) the overthrow of the late president, Ferdinand Marcos, in 1986.

"Twenty years of my life were under the Marcos dictatorship," he says when asked to trace his fascination with politics. "That regime coincided with the development

of my consciousness, with my development as a human being. It was really difficult. I saw my whole family become sort of dismembered. I thought that maybe it was just my family, but no, it was not. It was really a dismemberment of this whole society."

Deocampo hopes the narrative form — something he has often rebelled against — will allow him to come to terms with that dismemberment. "My idea is to present the story of three generations, interweaving with each other, questioning each other, invalidating each other, validating each other, loving each other, killing each other," he says. He expects his treatment of the story — which is still taking shape — to be similar in spirit to Dostoevsky's novel *The Brothers Karamazov* or Akira Kurosawa's film *Rashomon*.

He says he is "energised" by his contract with filmmakers in other countries, who are often envious of his access to the abundant dramatic material in the modern Philippines. "I hate to admit it, but artists do thrive in moments of turbulence," he says. "And this is one of

the most disturbing, one of the most disturbed, one of the most turbulent moments of our history."

Deocampo believes film, with its ability to record, shape and comment on history, can provide large numbers of people with alternative ways to see the world. His own acceptance by the local movie industry is an encouraging sign. "At the moment it's just cracks in a wall," he muses. "We hope that eventually the walls will be torn down, and then we can be part of shaping the cultural landscape."

World News Link.

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Deocampo believes film, with its ability to record, shape and comment

U.S. advisory committee calls for second AIDS drug

BETHESDA, Maryland (AP) — An advisory committee hesitantly approved a recommendation to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that a second drug, Didanosine or DDI, be approved for the treatment of AIDS.

Only one drug, AZT, has been fully approved so far for therapy against AIDS.

The committee voted 5-2 to recommend use of the drug for adults and by the same margin for use in children. Asked by the agency whether approval should be limited to those who cannot tolerate AZT, six voted yes for adults and five voted yes for children.

Representatives of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., maker of DDI, told the panel that clinical tests and the experience of limited num-

bers of AIDS sufferers who received the drug show it to be safe and effective.

FDA Commissioner Dr. David A. Kessler said the meeting was a milestone in the drug approval process, since it has been less than 3 months since the company submitted its application for approval. Most drugs take much longer to win a decision.

Members of the committee were clearly uncomfortable with the recommendation. Paul Meier, a professor of statistics at the University of Chicago said, "it seems to me the committee wanted conditional approval ... I don't think we have what the committee really wants."

Dr. Deborah Cotton, an assistant professor of medicine at the Harvard Medical School said the vote was "in a

sense, a rush to judgment."

Dr. Kessler said he would not favour a recommendation with conditions. If the drug does not do what is expected, approval can be withdrawn, the commissioner said.

The FDA has been under heavy pressure in recent years from patient advocacy groups to speed up its often cumbersome process of approving drugs.

"Our goal is to measure time in months for AIDS drugs," Kessler said at the start of the two-day DDI hearing. "We will continue to focus, and focus extensively on AIDS until this dread disease is brought under control."

As of May 31, the Centres for Disease Control said 179,136 Americans had been diagnosed with AIDS, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

The drug AZT attacks the virus directly, slowing progress of the disease. It has been approved for use by people who have AIDS or who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus that causes it.

AZT is marketed by the Burroughs Wellcome Co. Barr Laboratories Inc., of Portola N.Y., is seeking a license to market it also and was granted one by the National Institutes of Health, for use if it wins its patent lawsuit against Burroughs Wellcome. Burroughs Wellcome has challenged that action.

U.S. panel unconvinced that Alzheimer's drug effective

By W. Dale Nelson
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The first drug to be proposed for approval for treatment of Alzheimer's disease has failed to win the endorsement of an advisory panel to the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The panel, by an 8-0 vote, adopted instead a statement saying the tests made to date were "an insufficient demonstration of clinical effectiveness" of the drug Tacrine.

The panel left open the question of whether the FDA should permit patients to have access to the drug while its safety and efficacy are tested further.

An FDA regulation permits such access when tests are inconclusive but a drug shows promise of being effective.

Warner-Lambert Co., which wants to market the drug under the name Cognex, proposed to make it available to approximately 50,000 patients, who would be enrolled at a rate of approximately 10,000 a month.

The company said the programme would be limited to patients with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease.

Members of the advisory panel said any such programme should be accompanied by expanded testing to determine the efficacy of the drug.

There was no immediate comment from the company.

Earlier, Ronald M. Cresswell, Warner-Lambert vice president, told the panel that clinical trials at 18 university hospitals showed clear improvement in patients.

Members of the panel said the tests showed moderate improve-

ment in one measurement, which examined patients' ability to recall words, but failed to show any improvement in another measurement based on an objective evaluation by doctors.

Alzheimer's disease is the fourth largest cause of death among American adults, killing more than 100,000 annually. About four million persons in the United States are thought to be afflicted.

The disease causes a slow deterioration of mental functions, such as memory. Eventually patients lose control of body functions, become unable to care for themselves and then die.

He said that if the Warner-Lambert programme was properly carried out he thought "the chances of anyone dying or being irreparably hurt are reversible."

"There have been no deaths and I know of only one case of jaundice among test patients," Mr. Maddrey said.

He said that if the Warner-Lambert programme was properly carried out he thought "the chances of anyone dying or being irreparably hurt are minimal."

later at a reduced level of dosage.

Panel members said tests of larger doses are needed to determine the drug's effectiveness.

The drug works by blocking the breakdown of a chemical in the brain.

Dr. Willis Maddrey, vice president for clinical affairs at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre in Dallas, told the panel that the drug has toxic effects, particularly for elderly women, but they are "reversible."

There have been no deaths and I know of only one case of jaundice among test patients, Mr. Maddrey said.

He said that if the Warner-Lambert programme was properly carried out he thought "the chances of anyone dying or being irreparably hurt are minimal."

Weekend Crossword

THE MEN
By Harvey L. Chew

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4 It's able to
5 Don't
6 Greenway
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21 Susan Lucie role
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23 Miss Oly's
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25 Musical composition
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28 Starlet
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31 The capital
32 Overwhelmed
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King stresses need for joint action

(Continued from page 1)
Baker has won the support of key Arab states for Washington's plans for a conference. Israel is expected to reply to his proposals soon.

"My mission now is... to restore confidence and stability in relations among the Arab family and this is one of the issues on the agenda of talks in Jordan," Dr. Abdul Meguid said last week.

Dr. Abdul Meguid has visited Syria and Lebanon already.

Dr. Abdul Meguid also said he hoped a Middle East peace conference would open soon and said the league was ready to take part if asked.

U.S. Secretary of State James

New 'fun' party rocks Swedish political life

By Lars Foyen
Reuter

STOCKHOLM — An eccentric aristocrat and a pop music publisher have shaken Sweden's staid political establishment with a populist movement that aims to make life "simpler, cheaper and more fun."

Founded only six months ago, the New Democracy Party is already polling about 1% per cent in opinion surveys as Sweden heads for general elections on Sept. 15.

"We are witnessing a typical Swedish revolution. It is a polite process, but the message is clear: the people want a new system," party leader and businessman Count Jan Wachtmeister said in an interview.

New Democracy wants to make life simpler by, for instance, abolishing traffic wardens, more fun by easing the tough alcohol laws and cheaper by lowering taxes and privatising much of the social welfare system, one of the most extensive in the world.

It also wants Sweden to establish military ties with the West instead of being neutral, and to tighten up immigration policies. Swedish politicians have reacted with horror at Mr. Count Wachtmeister and his party's founder Bert Karlsson.

Name-calling is rife. The media have dubbed the pair "the mad count and the butler."

Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson, a Social Democrat, has described them as "rightist loonies".

Foreign Minister Sten Andersson recently called them "Frankenstein's monster", to which Mr. Count Wachtmeister responded:

"Andersson must have seen bert early one morning."

On alcohol, sold only in state-run shops and taxed so heavily that one beer can cost up to \$10 in a restaurant, the party wants to cut prices and liberalise sales.

"With lower prices, people would go out more and there would be less loneliness," he said.

Rival Swedish politicians hope, and many pundits expect, that support for the new party will wane to below the four per cent threshold for entering parliament as election day approaches.

Sweden's hidebound political scene has had no place for populists until now.

The Social Democrats have been in power for more than half a century, usually with the support of the small Communist Party. The Conservative Moderate Party, the Liberal Party and the Agrarian Centre Party have provided the opposition.

But a dramatic drop in opinion poll support for the Social Democrats — down to about 30 per cent from 43 per cent at the 1988 elections — and a surge to some 10 per cent for the Christian Democrats are seen as signs that voters are tired of the old order.

Mr. Count Wachtmeister sees his early success partly as a protest against a dull and out-of-touch political establishment which "debates marginal policy differences in a language nobody understands."

Political scientists also cite disenchantment with Sweden's cradle-to-grave welfare state and realise.

10 years on, Charles and Diana are no fairy tale couple

By Anne Senior
Reuter

LONDON — Their wedding was a royal fairy tale played out before a world audience.

A lonely prince wooed and won his beautiful bride and their happiness was sealed by a lingering kiss on the balcony of Buckingham Palace.

Ten years on, Prince Charles and his wife Diana make no secret of going their separate ways, and may not even get together for their wedding anniversary on July 29.

The apparent coolness between them has set tongues wagging and imaginations racing about the relationship on which the future of Britain's monarchy may depend.

Could the heir to the throne and his wife see the dream marriage which began with a lavish ceremony in St Paul's Cathedral end up in the divorce courts?

Or is their restrained relationship a sign of a marriage which has little need for romantic gestures?

The nation's interest in the love lives of their future king and queen is not entirely voyeuristic. If the marriage failed the monarchy could be plunged into its biggest crisis since Edward VIII gave up his throne to marry an American divorcee, Wallis Simpson, in 1936.

It would be the most painful royal divorce scandal since the 16th century, when Henry VIII took the drastic step of breaking with the Roman Catholic Church to end his marriage to the first of his six wives, Catherine of Aragon.

As gossips chatter, the prince and princess stay smug and inscrutable as ever behind the serrated ranks of their aides and courtiers.

lying efforts to dissect their marriage.

Professional royal-watchers fall into two camps in the great marriage debate.

The tabloid writers have mostly opted for the crisis theory. "Yes there is a problem between Charles and Diana," says palace aide.

The Daily Mirror told its readers after revelations that Princess Diana had turned down her husband's offer of a party to celebrate her 30th birthday on July 1.

Biographers, however, take a more positive view.

"There is no doubt that their union is strong and permanent and they love one another deeply, no longer so passionately as they did when they were honeymooners but with the familiarity of two horses who have spent 10 years in harness," wrote Penny Junor in her new book Charles And Diana.

In A Prince's Marriage, Anthony Holden concludes the couple went through a crisis four years ago and have since achieved a stable, workable relationship in which both have the freedom to pursue their own interests.

Prince Charles, 12 years older than his wife, mixes with an intellectual crowd of his own age and likes to tend his garden at the couple's country home, Princess Diana is busy with the children's charities she heads and spends more time in London, where her younger son Harry, 6, is a pupil at a day school.

The princess, only 20 when she married, has grown confident in public and undertakes more solo engagements than before.

The latest rumours were sparked by the prince's conspicuous absence on his



The Prince and Princess of Wales

wife's birthday and a report by gossip columnist Nigel Dempster that Princess Diana had rejected her husband's birthday party idea. The inside information was said to have come from friends of the prince angered by the bad press he was getting.

Even The Independent On Sunday, which along with its sister paper The Independent usually avoids royal gossip, was drawn into the debate, sensing a big story in the making.

The thought evoked by the Dempster piece is that Prince Charles may be trying to tarnish his wife's reputation as a prelude to divorce.

columnist Lynn Barber wrote.

"Charles's marriage to Lady Diana Spencer was the most popular move he ever made if he now decides to divorce her it is impossible to imagine how he will repair the damage."

The Spectator magazine accused the press of hounding the prince and princess "in an unremitting way that would have damaged even the most serene partnership."

In the past princes could take a mistress or two if they

tired of the wife chosen for them by their advisers. But since the Victorian age the royal family has been expected to set a moral example for the nation.

It has become acceptable for a minor royal to get a divorce but Queen Elizabeth would be unlikely to sanction a split between her eldest son and his popular wife. Couriers say privately a divorce is quite out of the question.

Both prince and princess are said to be acutely aware of the importance of making their marriage work, not only for their two young sons William and Harry, but for the very institution of royalty.

After the fuss over Princess Diana's birthday, the couple appeared in public together at a charity dinner and the paparazzi reported delightedly they had called each other "darling".

All eyes are now on the royal diary to see if Prince Charles and Princess Diana are together for their 10th anniversary, or in different parts of the country. There may yet be news of a party but Buckingham Palace says there are no special plans for one.

Row in House over peace process

(Continued from page 1)

Environment Minister Salim Zu'bi joined Mr. Tarawneh and affirmed that "there are ministers in this government who are against peace."

Mr. Masri, who had tried to take the floor ahead of the two ministers, then requested to be heard. He reiterated his government's commitments to the principles which the Kingdom adhered to since 1967 when Israel occupied the West Bank.

The cabinet had presented the House with its policy statement in which it stressed the principles (of the Kingdom's policies) and has adhered to these principles in spirit and text," Mr. Masri said.

He promised the House that he would brief them on the details of the Jordanian talks with Mr. Baker in a closed meeting. He asked that the discussions over this issue be closed.

Sources later told the Jordan Times that the row was carried out into the corridors of the chamber of deputies but was solved amicably.

The parliament sources said also that the two ministers were upset by Speaker Abdul Latif

Israel optimistic over peace talks

(Continued from page 1)

and its Arab neighbours into talks under which Israel would trade occupied Arab land for peace.

Syria hopeful

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa said he hoped Israel would drop objections so the talks could take place soon. "We hope at this stage, after U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's latest tour of the region, that the conference will be held as soon as possible," Mr. Sharaa told reporters.

The positive Syrian response has confused the leaders of Israel and thrown them in contradictions because they now realise that the proposed peace conference means that their "no" will fall one after the other," Mr. Sharaa said.

Mr. Sharaa avoided a direct reply when asked about the call by President Mubarak for Israel to stop building settlements in the occupied territories in exchange for the lifting of an Arab economic boycott.

"We in Syria... consider the settlements in occupied Arab territories illegal and contradictory with U.N. Security Council resolutions, hence they are a major obstacle to peace," Mr. Sharaa said.

Mr. Sharaa said Israel's refusal

Kaddoumi meets Jibril

In Damascus, Farouq Kaddoumi, head of the Political Department of the PLO, conferred Wednesday with dissident Palestinian leaders in a bid to close ranks.

Attending the meeting were Ahmad Jibril, secretary-general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, his deputy Talaat Naj, and Abdul Mohnen Abu Maizar, a former PLO spokesman.

It was the first time that such a ranking aide to Mr. Arafat has met with these Syrian-backed leaders who split from PLO ranks in 1983.

"It was constructive. Our views were identical" towards the peace process, Mr. Jibril said after the meeting. He said he was assured by Mr. Kaddoumi that the PLO did not intend to accept that any Arab delegation to the proposed peace conference speak for the Palestinians.

Political scientists also cite disenchantment with Sweden's cradle-to-grave welfare state and realise.

Millions are suffering from work-related stress

By Jane E. Brody

NEW YORK — Do you come home from work physically or emotionally drained with little energy or enthusiasm left for dealing with family or personal matters?

Do you find it hard to get out of bed in the morning knowing what you face at work that day?

Do you often suffer from headaches, backaches, digestive upsets or insomnia that you trace to distress at work?

Have you noticed that you are drinking too much alcohol, smoking too many cigarettes, or becoming dependent on drugs that pep you up or help you sleep?

You may be among tens of millions of workers who are suffering from job-related stress, a problem far more common than either workers or their employers realise.

At a time when many people are suffering the effects of unemployment, it may seem inappropriate to talk about stress on the job.

But as a recent U.S. survey revealed, cutbacks in personnel and shrinking employee benefits are major contributors to what the survey researchers called a national epidemic of job stress.

Among a random sample of 600 full-time American workers in all types of jobs, 72 per cent said they suffered from three or more stress-related conditions very often or somewhat often.

These include exhaustion, anger or anxiety, muscle pain, headaches, insomnia and gastrointestinal disorders. Some workers were often beset by as many as eight or more stress-related ailments.

The growing problem of job

stress also exacts a toll on employers by increasing job turnover and absenteeism and decreasing productivity.

Seven of 10 workers surveyed said that excessive job stress was cutting into their productivity, and nearly one in five said they missed one or more days of work last year because of workplace stress.

Fully one-third seriously considered quitting last year to reduce their stress, and 14 per cent actually did quit or change jobs within the past two years because of workplace stress. Furthermore, 35 per cent of new employees said they had left their previous jobs because of stress. Many of the stressed-out employees who stayed on the job presumably functioned at less than an ideal level.

A dozen major causes of job

stress were identified through the survey, which was conducted for an insurance company last January and February by N.K. Friederichs & Associates, an independent research company in Minneapolis.

The surveyors interviewed a representative sample of 600 American full-time adult workers who are not self-employed. The survey had a margin of sampling error of plus or minus four percentage points.

The researchers said they were surprised to discover that a hiring freeze and forced time off without pay, common in the recession, did not significantly increase worker burnout.

But three of the four leading factors related to burnout involved changes typical of current economic conditions: a substantial

reduction in employee benefits; merger, acquisition or a change of company ownership, and a reduction in the size of the work force or elimination of positions at the company.

The leading identified cause of burnout — "little personal control allowed" in doing one's job — is prevalent at all times, irrespective of the economy.

Other factors associated with burnout and an increased likelihood of suffering stress-related illnesses included major departmental reorganisations and frequent requirements for overtime work.

More than half the workers suffering burnout said their employer did not have supportive work and family policies and did not have effective lines of communication with management. — The New York Times.

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Sports

Sampras, Chang upset at Canadian Open

MONTREAL (R) — A pair of unheralded, unseeded upstarts sent seeded Americans Pete Sampras and Michael Chang to early exits at the \$1.2 million Canadian Open Tennis Tournament.

Fifth seed Chang failed in his quest to defend his title when he fell to 103rd-ranked Italian Stefano Pescosolido 7-6, 3-6, 6-3 in a second-round match.

Sampras, seeded fourth, squandered three match points, losing a dramatic third set tiebreak 10-8 to 91st-ranked Shuzo Matsuoka of Japan, who downed the U.S. Open Champion 2-6, 6-4, 7-6.

Both Sampras and Chang were playing their first matches after receiving first-round byes.

Top seed Ivan Lendl, French Open champion Jim Courier, Andre Agassi and John McEnroe

are scheduled to play second round matches Wednesday.

The 11th-ranked Chang looked uncharacteristically listless against Pescosolido.

"Today was kind of a difficult day," said Chang, who has not won a tournament since this event last year. "I was making so many unforced errors. I didn't feel at all comfortable out there."

Chang sprayed shots wide and long throughout the two hour 13 minute match. Although the American was able to take the second set on three service breaks, Pescosolido, who jumped out to a 4-0 third set lead, always appeared in control.

Matsuoka simply refused to yield to the hard-serving ninth-ranked Sampras.

After Sampras easily won the

opening set, Matsuoka began a valiant fight. He sent the match to a third set with a single second set service break in the third game.

Matsuoka saved two match points in the 10th game and the struggle came down to a final set tiebreak.

The Tokyo native squandered a match point of his own when he hit a forehand long at 6-5. But after saving another match point, Matsuoka drilled his second ace of the tiebreak at 9-8 and leapt in the air as he received a standing ovation.

"In the past, I'd always find a way to lose to a good player," said Matsuoka. "Today, it looked like it would be the same thing."

"He had match point. But I told myself, 'I can do it,' and that was it."

Jennifer Capriati sent the United States on to the second round by beating Manon Bollegraft 6-2, 6-3. The doubles portion of the match was cancelled because of darkness.

"I don't think you ever get used to the rain," said Garrison, who closed out her match by winning four straight games after the interruption. "You learn to deal with it, but you never get used to it."

Top-seeded Spain also won its first-round match Tuesday, elimi-

U.S., Spain and U.K. advance to 2nd round of Federation Cup

NOTTINGHAM, England (AP) — Zina Garrison regrouped during a rain delay to finish off Nicole Jagerman 7-5, 6-4, starting the U.S. team on its way to first-round victory Tuesday over the Netherlands in the Federation Cup.

Other teams reaching the second round were Britain, Switzerland, Austria and Czechoslovakia.

Garrison fought off a set point in the first set and suffered bouts of wildness throughout most of the match. She trailed 4-2 in the second set and had just opened the seventh game with a double fault when the rain began.

"I was just a little bit tentative," said the 1990 Wimbledon finalist. "During the rain delay, (U.S. captain) Marty (Riessen) told me to go out and attack, and it worked."

Garrison, who has experienced many rain delays during nine years at Wimbledon, returned from the break to win 16 of 22

points to complete the victory.

The rain was only one of the distractions on a dark, windy day. Freight trains repeatedly rolled by on tracks adjacent to the tennis complex, and a brass band played excerpts from "Carmen" during Capriati's match.

"I had trouble keeping my rhythm," said Capriati, whose match was punctuated by the band's crashing cymbals a few hundred yards away.

Riessen said he was just glad to be in Wednesday's second round, in which the United States faces the Maleeva sisters of Bulgaria. Katerina and Magdalena Maleeva are the stars for Bulgaria, a team coached by their mother.

"I think the first round is always difficult," Riessen said. "It's always good to get through the first one and get used to the conditions."

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY JULY 26, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation
GENERAL TENDENCIES: Strange conditions with a partner can cause some toward unexpected and dramatic event to unfold but since the aspects are positive the long term effects will be positive and beneficial.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You now have all kinds of opportunity by communicating with those at a distance and getting their ideas for advancing toward newer outlets.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You now have it in your power to find some new sources of revenue but be sure you are not engaged in social affairs you miss some new opportunity.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Your partners can see eye to eye with you but one of your family or an influential person can put a cog in your wheel of progress but be

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) There are many projects for you to do and you had best get busy and do it yourself or you lose a valuable ally who can help you.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Forget those money worries and concentrate upon relieving yourself of the dreary drudgeries that have been present by some congenial companions.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Take some time out now to do what your family expects of you and you can find some things for

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY JULY 25, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation
GENERAL TENDENCIES: Strange conditions with a partner can cause some toward unexpected and dramatic event to unfold but since the aspects are positive the long term effects will be positive and beneficial.

the home and establish more happiness there.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Think over that plan a usual ally has presented to you and see what you can do to make it workable instead of fuming over some fancied shortcoming.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You now have it in your power to find some new sources of revenue but be sure you are not engaged in social affairs you miss some new opportunity.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Your partners can see eye to eye with you but one of your family or an influential person can put a cog in your wheel of progress but be

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) There are many projects for you to do and you had best get busy and do it yourself or you lose a valuable ally who can help you.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Forget those money worries and concentrate upon relieving yourself of the dreary drudgeries that have been present by some congenial companions.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Take some time out now to do what your family expects of you and you can find some things for

pleasing a demanding person.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) There are a number of private matters to be worked out and solved by you today before you can get off to those interesting new outlets that attract you.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Whatever causes you to feel tied down is not very good and you are able to use all spare moments with good friends who understand your need for more sociability.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 18) This is the time when whatever means much to you should be in the outside world of civic or career conditions instead of trying to please a demanding person.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

N. Korea, Iran log wins in Asian club soccer

DHAKA (AP) — North Korea's April 25 Club and the Esteghlal Club from Iran forged ahead Tuesday in the 10th Asian Club Championship '90 Soccer Tournament. April 25 Club beat Thailand's Bangkok Bank Club 4-3 in the first of two matches played in the rain-soaked Dhaka Stadium. The Esteghlal Club, hot favourites in the championship, drew 1-1 with Bangladesh's Mohammadi Club. But the Mohammadi, who had only two points from two previously drawn matches, were edged out of the tournament having gained three points in all. The Iranian team, which had four points from two previously won matches, now has a points tally of five. At the end of half time, Bangladesh was leading by a solitary goal scored in the 26th minute. The Iranians equalised in the 66th minute.

Foreman to fight Pultz on Sept. 7

LAS VEGAS (AP) — George Foreman will fight Boone Pultz on Sept. 7 in Nassau, the Bahamas, in his first bout since his unsuccessful bid for the undisputed heavyweight championship. The 10-round match will be part of an HBO-Television doubleheader from the Queen Elizabeth Sports Centre, Bob Arum, president of Top Rank, Inc., announced Tuesday. Rafael Pineda of Colombia will fight Roger Mayweather of Las Vegas in a 12-round bout for the vacant International Boxing Federation junior welterweight title. The Foreman-Pultz fight originally was set for Sept. 7 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. It appeared it would a tuneup for the 42-year-old Foreman for a rematch against champion Evander Holyfield, who outpointed him on April 19, but then Holyfield signed to defend against Mike Tyson on Nov. 8 at Caesars Palace. Foreman and Arum, who would have been involved in the rematch, as in the first fight, have sued Holyfield, his promoter, Dan Duva, and manager Shelly Finkel, for \$10 million.

Maradona ordered held

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — A federal judge has ordered preventive detention for Diego Maradona, but it's unlikely the soccer star will spend time in jail. The ruling by Judge Amelia Berraz de Vidal was technical. Earlier, she freed Maradona on \$20,000 bail. "The decision does not imply the privation of liberty for Maradona," the Argentine News Agency (Telam) reported. Maradona, 30, was arrested in April and charged with possession of drugs and distributing small amounts free of charge. He was detained with two friends. Maradona's urine analysis tested positive for cocaine. Weeks earlier, the captain of Argentina's national team and Napoli was suspended from soccer after testing positive for cocaine use following an Italian league match. The suspension runs through the end of the 1991-92 season. He has not yet said if he intends to return to professional soccer. Maradona is undergoing treatment and counselling for drug abuse.

Brugera advances at Dutch Open

HILVERSUM, Netherlands (AP) — Top-seeded Spaniard Sergi

Brugera and the other seeded players defeated their opponents with ease Tuesday to advance to the second round of the \$250,000 Dutch Open. Brugera, ranked eighth in the world by the Association of Tennis Professionals, trounced Diego Perez from Uruguay 6-4, 6-4 on the clay courts. No. 2-seeded Karel Novacek of Czechoslovakia overcame a sluggish start to beat Argentine Alberto Mancini 5-7, 6-3, 6-1. But decisive wins were scored by Italian Omar Camporese and Austrian Horst Skoff in this tournament being held at the Melkhuisje Tennis Centre in this Amsterdam suburb. Skoff, the No. 6 seed, beat Dutchman Jacco Eltingh 6-4, 6-3 while eighth-seeded Camporese beat Argentinian Martin Jaita 6-1, 6-3.

Ottey improves 1991 sprint best

VIGO, Spain (R) — Jamaican Merlene Ottey improved her 1991 world best 100 metres time here Tuesday by romping to victory in 10.79 seconds. She clipped 0.05 of a second off the time she set in Lausanne, Switzerland on July 10. Tony Dees edged out fellow American Greg Foster to win the 100 metres hurdles in a 1991 world best 13.05. Foster set the previous best mark of 13.11 in Finland earlier this month. Brazilian Jose Luis Barbosa ran the fastest 800 metres of the year in one minute 43.87 seconds. England's Peter Elliot scored a decisive victory in the 1,500 metres, finishing in 3:33.78, with second-place Jose Luis Gonzalez of Spain more than three seconds behind.

Armenian fans hurl rocks at Moscow team

MOSCOW (R) — Armenian soccer fans pelted a visiting Moscow team with rocks and bottles and besieged players in their dressing room for two hours, a Soviet newspaper reported Tuesday. The visitors only got free after baton-wielding police and high-powered water jets dispersed the crowd. Sovietsky Sport, disclosing details of the violence at Yerevan's Hrazdan stadium on July 19, said fans began throwing missiles at the team's reserve bench five minutes from the end of the league match, in which CSKA from Moscow beat local side Ararat 1-0. "The bombardment was so intense that for 30 minutes after the match we were unable to move out from under the stand protecting the coaches' and reserve branches," CSKA coach Pavel Sadyrin told the daily. "Then for more two hours, we sat locked in our dressing room. The windows were smashed by paving stones." Sadyrin said fans were dispersed by water cannon and police wielding truncheons and his team was quickly flown out of Yerevan aboard a charter flight.

Yugoslav soccer season may be delayed

BELGRADE (R) — The Yugoslav soccer season, due to open on Aug. 3, is likely to start late because of political unrest in the country. "The final decision will be made at the Yugoslav Soccer Federation (YSF) presidency meeting on July 26 but it looks likely that the league will start late," Ante Pavlovic, the YSF's general secretary said. Three of the opening league matches are due to be played between Serbian and Croatian teams. "In the circumstances, starting (as scheduled) might be both dangerous and inappropriate," Pavlovic said.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY JULY 26, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation
GENERAL TENDENCIES: The full Moon and lunar Eclipse make a somewhat peculiar day when it is no time to take chances or to break-up any presently existing conditions that is affording you some benefit.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A good morning to get some new ideas how to advance your interests and then the evening is great for going directly to a practical person can help you.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Go to some expert who can help you solve your most important problem after which you are able to get out in the world to make new contacts.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Your interest in carrying through with discussions a partner is involved in is fine after which you can attend to your part of any agreement.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You now find that you have a considerable amount of work to do so get it behind you and then you can consult with allies about new arrangements.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You can arrange parties, recreations early after which you a considerable number of assignments to do so you can have everything in order.

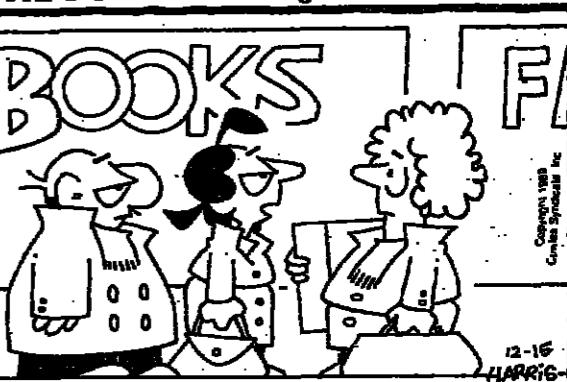
VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) A day to handle those basic

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Jewelers- Gems
Amman- Rio De Janeiro
Amman- Amra Hotel- 6th. circle.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Stanley can't go in the pet store. Somebody thought he was a cross between a St. Bernard and a basset hound."

JUMBLE

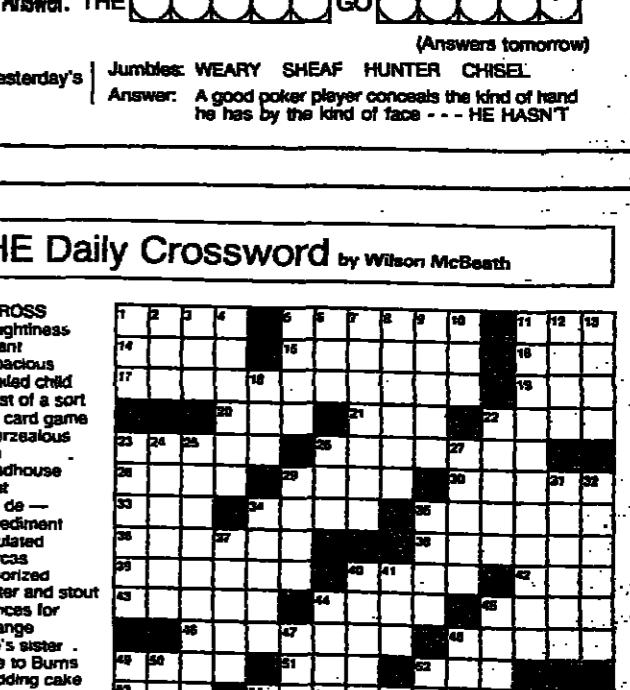
THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME
by Hend Arnold and Bob Lee

DEROO	RE
RE	RE
RE	RE
TENGA	RE
RE	RE
VIRLED	RE
RE	RE
FULOWE	RE
RE	RE

Now strange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE Daily Crossword

by Wilson McBeath



Financial Markets		Jordan Times		
in co-operation with		Cairo Amman Bank		
U.S. Dollars in International Markets				
Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close		
	Date 23/7/91	Date 24/7/91		
Sterling Pound	1.6794	1.6897		
Deutsche Mark	1.7595	1.7467		
Swiss Franc	1.5270	1.5157		
French Franc	5.2735	5.9440*		
Japanese Yen	137.25	136.87		
European Currency Unit	1.1690	1.1750*		
USD/Pound	1.0000	1.0000		
European Opening at 8.00 a.m. (EST)			Date: 24/7/91	
International Interest Rates	1 MTHS	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.87	6.00	6.25	6.62
Sterling Pound	11.96	11.80	10.81	10.62
Deutsche Mark	6.75	9.26	4.25	9.31
Swiss Franc	7.58	7.81	7.97	7.62
French Franc	6.12	9.24	9.33	9.31
Japanese Yen	7.28	7.28	7.00	7.00
European Currency Unit	7.75	9.67	10.00	10.00
Interest rate for amount exceeding 1,000,000 or equivalent.				
Precious Metals	Bid	Offer		
Gold	768.00	7.00	6.29	6.10
21 Karat				
Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin				Date: 24/7/91
Currency	Bid	Offer		
U.S. Dollar	1.686	1.688		
Sterling Pound	1.1501	1.1639		
Deutsche Mark	1.3922	1.3932		
Swiss Franc	1.477	1.480		
French Franc	1.1155	1.1161		
Japanese Yen	5082	5027		
Dutch Guilder	1.3482	1.3499		
Swedish Krona	1.1084	1.1089		
Italian Lira	.0527	.0530		
Belgian Franc	.01893	.01903		
* Per 100				
Other Currencies	Bid	Offer		
Bahraini Dinar	1.7820	1.7930		
Lebanese Lira	.0770	.0790		
Saudi Riyal	.1826	.1835		
Kuwaiti Dinar	-	-		
Qatari Riyal	.1853	.1864		
Egyptian Pound	.1900	.2025		
Omani Riyal	1.7450	1.7550		
UAE Dirham	.1853	.1864		
Greek Drachma	.3400	.3600		
Cypriot Pound	1.4200	1.440		
* Per 100				
CAB Indices for Amman Financial Markets				
Index	22/7/91	Close	23/7/91	Close
All-Share	111.40	111.34		
Banking Sector	106.59	106.14		
Insurance Sector	119.34	119.43		
Industry Sector	115.88	116.48		
Services Sector	128.72	128.32		
December 31, 1990 = 100				

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.	
One Sterling	1.6855/65
One U.S. dollar	1.1525/30
1.7475/85	U.S. dollar
1.9685/95	Canadian dollar
1.5180/85	Deutschmarks
35.92/96	Dutch guilders
5.9350/9400	Swiss francs
1302/1303	Belgian francs
137.45/55	French francs
6.3260/3310	Italian lire
6.7540/90	Japanese yen
6.7540/90	Swedish crowns
366.90/367.40	Norwegian crowns
One ounce of gold	Danish crowns
	U.S. dollars

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Cinema Tel: 677420
LAMBADA
Show: 3:30, 6:45 p.m.
KARATE WARRIOR
Show: 5:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

NIJOUN
Cinema Tel: 675571
To Be Opened Soon
Nabil Mashini
Theatre

India eases restriction on foreign investment

NEW DELHI (AP) — Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's month-old government pushed ahead with promises opened up the economy Wednesday by easing some restrictions on foreign investment.

In outlining its programme to parliament, the government also said it would remove bureaucratic obstacles which have hampered industrial growth.

The government is committed to building a "modern, democratic, socialist and forward-looking India. Such a society can be built if India grows as part of the world economy and not in isolation," said the policy statement delivered by Minister of Industries P.J. Kurian.

United News said the Rao government's plan emphasizes regulation of monopolistic, restrictive and unfair trade practices.

Despite a vast potential market of 844 million people, foreign investment in India has been held to less than \$200 million a year because of red tape and limits of taking profits out of the country.

The government was to present its budget later Wednesday.

Although the fiscal year started April 1, the national budget has been delayed by political upheavals caused by early elections and the May 21 assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi during the election campaign.

Under the programme, foreign equity holdings of up to 51 per cent will be allowed for trading companies engaged primarily in export activities, United News said. The previous limit was 40 per cent.

The policy will apply to 34 types of industries that need large

Japan to lend \$350m to Soviets for refinancing

TOKYO (AP) — Japan, which conditions massive aid to the Soviet Union on the resolution of a territorial dispute, plans nonetheless to lend \$350 million to Moscow to refinance its trade debts to Japanese companies.

A ministry of International Trade and Industry official said Wednesday the terms of the loan will be discussed later by representatives from the two sides, including Japanese creditors such as commercial banks and trading companies.

Since the London summit, the government has been working on measures that would allow Japan to provide some support to efforts to restructure the Soviet economy, despite its own position that a longstanding territorial dispute must be resolved before it provides substantial aid.

"We have confirmed a joint resolve to step up assistance to the Soviet Union to pursue perestroika," Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe said Tuesday.

Mr. Watanabe said such aid would be concentrated mainly in technological cooperation and humanitarian aid.

The aid offered by the trade ministry will help shore up trade accounts that are going unpaid because of the Soviets' lack of foreign exchange.

Of the \$350 million to be extended to the Soviet Bank of

Japan currently has about \$500 million in outstanding trade debts with Japan, government and industry officials say.

Japan's exports to the Soviet Union totalled \$897 million in the first five months of this year, down 21.0 per cent from the same period last year, according to a ministry official.

The association said Japan's imports from the Soviet Union totalled \$1.42 billion during the five-month period, up 20.8 per cent from a year earlier.

"Unless there is a dramatic improvement in Soviet foreign reserves ... the declining trend in Japan's exports to the Soviet Union will continue," said Itaru Otoya, an association researcher.

Leaders from Japan and six other major industrialized countries who met Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in London last week agreed to support economic reforms in the Soviet Union.

The United States believes that full membership negotiation between the Soviet Union and the IMF-World Bank is not the most effective way for proceeding with Soviet economic reform," a Treasury Department spokeswoman said.

The United States argues that membership negotiations could take two years or more and could distract Moscow from the more important business of reforming its economy.

The culture of the bank is criminal," Mr. Leigh-Pemberton told the parliamentary Treasury Committee, which launched an investigation into the shut down of the major private bank.

The governor said the 77.4 per cent owner of BCCI, Abu Dhabi

Soviets apply for IMF entry; U.S. wary

WASHINGTON (R) — The Soviet Union has surprised U.S. leaders, moving to end decades of self-imposed economic isolation by applying for full membership of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

The move immediately ran into opposition from the United States. It said lengthy discussions on membership were not the best way for Moscow to pursue such much-needed economic reforms.

The application for full IMF membership took both the fund and the United States by surprise, monetary sources said.

Instead of full membership, the United States has proposed that the Soviet Union become a special associate of the IMF and the World Bank. That would allow Moscow to draw on the two organizations' expertise in reforming its economy without giving it access to their money.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev lodged the application for IMF and World Bank membership in a letter to the heads of the two United Nations affiliates.

The application follows Mr. Gorbachev's historic meeting in London last week with President George Bush and leaders of other rich industrial nations. They signalled their willingness to help him shift his country from communism to capitalism.

Faced with a rapidly crumbling economy, Mr. Gorbachev has had little choice but to turn to the West and to the lending institutions. Moscow once derided as capitalist tools.

But Washington remains wary about giving large-scale aid to the Soviet Union in the absence of economic reforms there in the belief the money would only end up being wasted.

Mr. Bush lined up the support of America's rich industrial allies for that proposal at their economic summit last week, even though some European countries indicated that they wanted to proceed more quickly in helping Moscow.

The United States argues that membership negotiations could take two years or more and could distract Moscow from the more important business of reforming its economy.

The culture of the bank is criminal," Mr. Leigh-Pemberton told the parliamentary Treasury Committee, which launched an investigation into the shut down of the major private bank.

"We felt we could not correct the level of fraud, the lack of professional conduct, competence and probity," he said. "Therefore we felt the institution should not go on."

Kuwait to start loading oil for export this week

DUBAI (Agencies) — Kuwait will start loading crude oil for export this week, its first since Iraq invaded the emirate last Aug. 2, oil and shipping sources in the Gulf said Wednesday.

They said Kuwait had chartered two tankers in London to load oil from its Ahmadi terminal.

The 260,000-tonne tanker Thorness and the 227,000-tonne Connecticut were on their way to Kuwait. They would take oil either to northwest Europe or the southern United States.

Firefighters in Kuwait have been battling to extinguish hundreds of oil wells set ablaze in the Gulf war. The emirate has managed to pump 140,000 barrels a day (bpd) to meet domestic demand.

Before the invasion, it was pumping two million bpd.

Oil industry sources in the Gulf said the emirate might be having problems holding crude it was producing because storage tanks were damaged during the Iraqi invasion.

They also said Kuwait might have difficulty loading the crude — the Sea Island terminal, its main export outlet, was still out of action due to bomb damage.

An oil industry executive in the emirate said the north pier at the Ahmadi terminal had been put into operation during the last couple of months, mainly to unload petroleum products being imported by Kuwait.

But the north pier stood in shallow water and very large crude carriers could be only partially loaded, the industry sources said. It meant that such vessels would have to be moored offshore to take oil.

A senior official at Kuwait Petroleum Corporation declined to comment when asked when Kuwait would resume exports: "I hope we start exports soon, but I do not want to comment," he said.

Mergers to help troubled banks

The government plans to reorganize Kuwait's troubled banking system next month, the head of the central bank, Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah, said in an interview published Wednesday.

He also told the Arabic daily Al Watan that gold taken by Iraq from Kuwait's central bank is now in Iraq's central bank and that the United Nations says it will be returned within the next two weeks.

The gold is valued at between \$600 million and \$700 million.

U.N. officials are supervising the repatriation of goods taken during Iraq's occupation of Kuwait.

In a wide-ranging interview, Sheikh Salem told the newspaper that several banks and investment companies would be merged to produce four banks, what he described as "the ideal number for the present stage of the Kuwaiti economy."

He did not say which institutions would be merged.

Before the Gulf war, just one of the country's six state-controlled commercial banks was operating at a profit without government support, according to published reports.

Most never fully recovered from the 1982 crash of Kuwait's unofficial stock market, the Souq Al Manakh, and all have been hurt by post-war deposit withdrawals and uncollectable loans.

Sheikh Salem said some 600 million dinars (\$1.8 billion) had been pumped into the banks in the recent period. He did not give a specific time frame.

Sheikh Salem said that another factor in the banks' problems was too many workers. He said 7,200 people worked in the banking sector in 1989, and that the heavy staffing increased expenses and decreased earnings.

"This is why merger of banking and financial units is necessary," he said.

Merging the institutions will restructure their work force and enlarge their capital base "in a way to make them stand competition," he added.

New union treaty reported to be ready for signing by Soviet republics

MOSCOW (Agencies) — President Mikhail Gorbachev said Wednesday a final draft of the new union treaty is complete and ready for signing. TASS reported, although some wording apparently still needs to be worked out.

Armenia, which earlier rejected participation in the treaty, joined the leaders of nine other republics in talks Tuesday on completing the document, news agencies reported.

The union treaty is Mr. Gorbachev's centerpiece for preserving the country as a federation. It spells out the relationship between the Kremlin and the republics, including the sharing of power, foreign policy, defence and revenue sharing.

"In principle, the treaty is ready for signing," said Igor Malashenko, a Gorbachev spokesman. He said only the final wording of a clause on taxes needed some last-minute work.

The treaty still must be approved by the republics' parliaments. The Ukraine, for example, has postponed debate on it for at least two months.

The independent news agency Interfax quoted Mr. Gorbachev as saying the toughest issues concerning taxes and the division of powers between the centre and

the republics had been worked out at a meeting at a country house outside Moscow.

The Soviet News Agency (TASS) reported that Mr. Gorbachev emerged from the meeting at 1:30 a.m. Wednesday and said, "the work on a new union treaty has been completed."

Mr. Gorbachev and the republic leaders, including Russian Republic President Boris Yeltsin, finally agreed on a two-tier system of taxation with the centre and republics separately responsible for gathering revenue, Interfax said.

Participation by Armenia's leader, Levon Ter-Petrosyan, was warmly welcomed by Mr. Gorbachev and Anatoly Lukyanov, the chairman of the National Supreme Soviet legislature.

"It is a good omen," Interfax quoted Mr. Gorbachev as saying. "I feel Armenia's people wish to further cooperate with all peoples of the Soviet Union."

Prior to Tuesday's meeting, Armenia had sided with the Baltic republics of Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia as well as Georgia and Moldavia in declaring they would not sign the document.

Although Armenia took part in the talks, it was not clear if it was

ready to sign the document. "The question is open," Mr. Malashenko said.

The talks were attended by several of Mr. Gorbachev's top advisers, including Mr. Lukyanov, Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh, Defence Minister Dmitry Yazov and Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Shecherbakov.

Mr. Gorbachev's new union treaty is designed to preserve the country as a federation.

At an earlier meeting on April 23, Mr. Gorbachev signed an accord with the leaders of the nine republics — the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Kirgizia, Turkmenia, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Byelorussia and Tadzhikistan — to sign the union treaty. In turn, Mr. Gorbachev would turn over most of the nation's industrial and natural resources.

TASS did not say when the document would be published, although Mr. Gorbachev said he would like the Supreme Soviet to act on it soon.

Meanwhile the Azerbaijan News Agency, Turan, claimed Tuesday Armenians launched an armed attack on the neighbouring Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan this week, killing two shepherds

and stealing 13,500 sheep.

An Armenian Interior Ministry spokesman said there had been an attack on Azerbaijan but he could not confirm the details. He said it followed many attacks by Armenians against Armenia.

The two Transcaucasian republics, on the Soviet Union's southern fringe, have been fighting for the past three years over the mountainous enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh.

The enclave, claimed by both republics, is located in and administered by Azerbaijan, but — like many of the surrounding villages — it is populated mostly by Armenians.

Armenia has accused Azerbaijani police commandos and Soviet troops of forcibly deporting Armenians. But Azerbaijan says it is ridding its territory of illegal armed groups.

Turan said the attack by up to 400 Armenians Sunday night was on mountain pastures near the village of Ninkend, west of Nagorno-Karabakh.

It added that the mutilated bodies of the shepherds were later found close to the Armenian border.

Hundreds of people have died in and around Nagorno-Karabakh since fighting erupted in 1988.

Brunei plans defence links with U.S.

MANILA (AP) — President Corazon Aquino was asked Wednesday to renegotiate an agreement under which the United States would give up Clark Air Base next year but keep a naval base for 10 more years.

Mr. Aquino said she would discuss the issue with Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus Thursday, after he returns from the Association of South East Asian Nations meeting in Malaysia.

Last week, U.S. and Philippine negotiators announced they had reached an agreement under which Washington would return Clark next year but keep the Subic Bay Naval Base for another 10 years in return for \$203 million a year.

Brunei plans to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Washington to allow several U.S. warships to visit the oil-rich kingdom each year and for Brunei and U.S. troops to train together, Prince Mohammad said Tuesday night.

Brunei had no intention of allowing the U.S. fleet to use it as a military base, as in the Philippines, or of following Singapore's lead in granting the use of military facilities to help to maintain a U.S. presence in the region, he said.

"It is not a defence agreement as such but a MOU to enable training. The question of military cooperation is really within the realm of training facilities which are available," he said.

Both bases were heavily damaged during last month's eruptions of the Mount Pinatubo volcano. The agreement followed 14 months of difficult negotiations, and the lease on the bases expires on Sept. 16.

Calls for renegotiating the agreement have come from Congress, the media and the country's largest labour federation, the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines.

In a statement Wednesday, the federation said the agreement should be renegotiated to provide

Key Philippine senator to vote against bases pact

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY JULY 25-26 1991

COLUMN

Director calls for halt to 'massacre' of horses

ROME (AP) — Italian film director Franco Zeffirelli has called for a halt to the racing of Siena, a horse race that dates back to medieval times.

The people of Siena, however, fiercely defend the race as part of their cultural and historical legacy.

The race draws more than 50,000 spectators every year. "My purpose is to save these poor horses useless suffering," Zeffirelli said at a news conference organised in part by the Italian animal rights group Animal Amnesty. The race is now an appointment with death for the horses, said Zeffirelli.

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In a statement Wednesday, the federation said the agreement should be renegotiated to provide

better compensation terms for the government and for thousands of workers who will lose their jobs when Clark closes in 1992.

Sen. Ernesto Macea, chairman of the Senate Defence Committee, said Wednesday he would vote against the agreement because the \$203 million was insufficient.

Talks began on a new extension in May 1990 but dragged on because Mr. Manglapus had been haggling for more money. The Philippines demanded \$825 million a year for a seven-year agreement but Washington offered \$360 million for a 10-12-year stay at both Clark and Subic.

It was unclear how soon the Americans would have to leave if no agreement were ratified by September.

Mrs. Aquino said the agreement was the best the country could expect after the eruptions, but so far has not launched a major lobbying effort for the agreement.

In a separate development, The Philippine supreme court has upheld the conviction of 16 soldiers for the assassination of Mrs. Aquino's husband, Benigno.

The ruling, handed down Tuesday, affirmed a trial court's decision last September sentencing the late Air Force General Luther Custodio and 15 other military men to life imprisonment.

In the battle against the Palio after visiting Siena while filming a promotional documentary to his home region of Tuscany last June, The Palio, held every July 2 and Aug. 16, is known for its rough style and the intense rivalry among the 10 contrade, or neighbourhoods, which sponsor the runners. In the last 21 races, 22 horses have been destroyed after sustaining injuries during the competition. Jockeys riding bareback use whips and fists to get ahead in a free-for-all run along the perimeter Siena's scallop-shaped central square.

'Brideshead' stately home to sell art treasures

LONDON (R) — The owners of Castle Howard, the stately home featured in the British television series *Brideshead Revisited*, will sell 1,800 items of art to finance restoration costs, auctioneers Sotheby's said Tuesday. Simon Howard, who runs the estate in Yorkshire, northeast England, said it was the first time the Howard family had been forced to sell part of their heritage to meet the huge cost of maintaining the 18th century mansion's "disposal of items that have been in your family for many years is always a difficult situation, but there's a future to think about, and we have to ensure that Castle Howard goes into the next century as complete as possible," he said.

"Of course the situation on the border is tense but there is no cause for alarm," a Foreign Ministry spokesman told a news briefing.

"There are no threatening or abnormal troop movements on the Indian side. We are keeping close watch."

India and Pakistan, bitter foes since their independence from Britain in 1947, have fought three wars, two of them over Kashmir.

Meanwhile Islamabad sought Wednesday to defuse tension with India over the disputed territory of Kashmir after Pakistan's army chief said war was looming in the region and expressing fear India might attack Pakistan over Kashmir.

"Events are fast changing in the region and shadows of war have started appearing," Pakistan's official APP news agency quoted Gen. Beg as saying Sunday.

Mr. Pawar said India has no desire to start an armed conflict with its neighbours but it was Pakistan which was fomenting trouble.

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